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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Camerique

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January 5, 1983
Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

Editorial

What If . . .

Even though the holidays are over, the effects of the season are still quite evident. Children still cling to their new toys, teens can still be found in front of television sets playing with new "Atari" systems, and parents have not overcome the financial burden of it all. But what if Jesus had not been born; what if He had refused to come? There would have been no star in Bethlehem, the full revelation of God's love to man would not have been accomplished.

The story has been told of a minister who fell asleep in his study early one Christmas morning. The dream he had was of life in a world into which Jesus had not come. The gentleman found himself looking at a home without a single decoration; moreover, he saw a world where there was no one to comfort, gladden, and save. Out on the streets of the city he walked—but there were no church spires reaching upward. When he reached home and entered into his study again, all of the books about the Saviour had disappeared.

It was not long before the telephone rang. The minister answered the phone only to be asked to visit a poor dying mother. He hastened to the home, where he found a weeping child. As he had done so many times before, he immediately sat down beside this grief-stricken girl, opened his Bible and said, "I have something here that will comfort you." But when he opened his Bible he found that there were no Gospels, for the Book ended with Malachi. He had no gospel to share, no promise of hope and salvation; he could only bow his head and weep in utter despair with the child.

Two days later, the minister stood beside the mother's coffin and conducted the funeral service. This time, though, his was not a message of consolation, no open Heaven; only "dust to dust, and ashes to ashes"—one long eternal farewell.

At long last, the preacher realized what made all the difference—"**He** had not come!" Suddenly he awoke with a shout of joy and praise:

O come, all ye faithful, joyful, and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.

What a world this would be if Christ had not come—but He did come; He came to bring life and life more abundantly! As you enter the year 1983, are you confident about your relationship with God? If you feel as though you need greater certainty about God's love and acceptance, read the Gospel of John; there is immeasurable help to be found there. You will find how all who entrust themselves to Jesus Christ become God's children through the new birth; ". . . you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."

May each of us make Jesus Christ Lord, for He did come to bring life, and ours can be meaningful now and forever.

The Year in Review

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On the next few pages you will find a "sampling" of the articles published in 1982. Let us ponder these excerpts, for they will show us where we have been and lend insight into where we may be heading.

Director/Treasurer Resigns

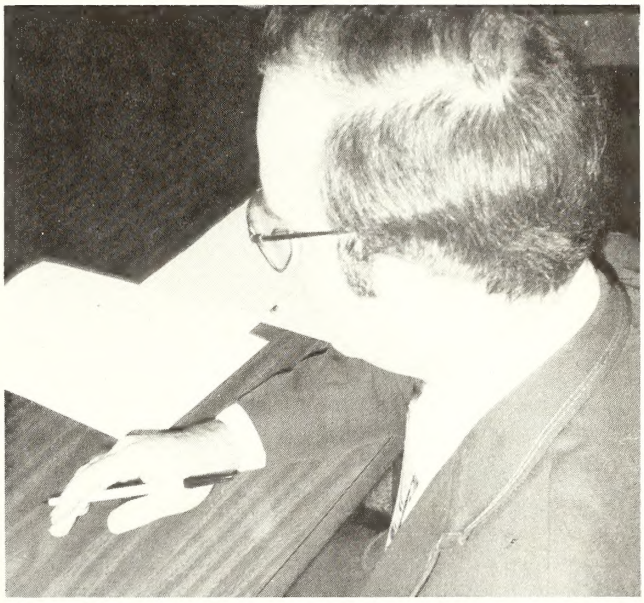
The Home Missions Board announces with regret the resignation of the Rev. Taylor Hill as director/treasurer of the Home Missions and Church Extension Board. His resignation became effective as of November 16, 1981, and his term in office will end during February.—(February 10, 1982)

(The Rev. Charles Crisp assumed the post on August 1; Mr. Hill died Saturday, December 4.)

History Is Made As Doors Are Opened

"This is progress!" the Rev. Fred A. Rivenbark, president of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation Board of Directors said, and within a few minutes history was being made.

At 11 a.m. on February 12, 1982, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press leased a portion of the Foundation building to the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists for the establishment of a headquarters. That afternoon at 2, the Revs. Harold Jones, Walter Reynolds, and Ray Wells met with members of the Executive Committee and Press officials, and office space was leased by the North Carolina State Convention Foreign Missions Board, Church Finance Association, Board of Superannuation, and Home Missions and Church Extension Department.



The Rev. Harold Jones, director of our Foreign Missions program, moved into his office on February 13. The Rev. Walter Reynolds will be moving the Church Finance Association and the Board of Superannuation work to the headquarters soon. The new Home Missions director will also work out of the newly established facility.

Mr. Rivenbark called this move "a step in the right direction." And surely it is, for our work as a church can now be more organized. Not only will the central location save travel for our ministers and people, the directors of our enterprises will realize benefits as well.

The new headquarters facility will provide Original Free Will Baptists with the programs they are needing and deserving; a more unified effort and work among our enterprises, ministers and churches; greater fields of service for those who feel led to follow the call into church-related fields of work; and a limitless opportunity avails itself to others who are interested in the work and ministry of the Original Free Will Baptist Church.

The address of the Original Free Will Baptist Church Headquarters is Box 38, Ayden, NC 28513-0038. The headquarters phone number is (919) 746-4963.

(Turn the Page)

Yes, Mr. Rivenbark, opening our headquarters was "a step in the right direction. May God help us keep on keeping on!"—(February 24, 1982)

Annual Meeting Held

The Forty-second Annual Meeting of the Church Finance Association, Inc. was held February 16, 1982, at Friendship Church, Route 1, Farmville. At that time, the Rev. Walter Reynolds, the present director of the Association, was elected to serve a five-year term.—(March 10, 1982)

Surely the Presence of the Lord Was in That Place

An anticipation filled the air, and when the service began, those present—all 575+ of us—united to praise God and to thank Him for raising up the Charles Barnard family. The spirit of the occasion was one of praise—it was evident as the Rev. C. F. Bowen led the service; it was lifted when Mrs. Judy Dail Bowen sang; it challenged everyone to greater service when our Foreign Missions director, the Rev. Harold Jones, affirmed, "As we pray, He will provide those to go and the means to keep them there." Yes, the Lord was surely present at the March 3rd commissioning service of the Barnards.

The speaker for the evening was Miss Laura Bell Barnard. "The first lady of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions," Miss Barnard was also commissioned at Black Jack Church. The year was 1935 and she was preparing to serve in India. Since returning from the field, she has taught for 13 years and also authored *His Name Among All Nations,* the "Bible" for foreign missionaries.

Miss Barnard had a twofold interest in this service. She said that her "whole being tingled with excitement" as she walked through Black Jack Church. So vivid were her memories! But the evening was also one that evoked gladness, thanksgiving, and praise, for Charles Barnard, her own kinsman (and the first one, at that), had joined hands with her in the foreign missions cause. He too had said, "Lord, here am I; send me." Charles is Miss Barnard's nephew, her brother's eldest.—(March 17, 1982)

State Layman's League Convention Organized

It was May 15, 1982; Rodgers Chapel, located in the midst of the Mount Olive College campus, was the scene; the event was the organizational meeting of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists Layman's League. Men from five districts—the Albemarle, Cape Fear, Central, Eastern, and Western—assembled themselves with a united purpose, the forming of a state body which would be "for the development of the men of the church, especially for their stewardship" (the Rev. David Charles Hansley).

The Rev. C. L. Patrick, pastor of Bethany Church, was the speaker of the hour. While speaking about the purpose and goals of such an organization, Mr. Patrick referred back to the

time when Moses told Joshua to get his men of war together, for he (Moses) needed help. Those men of war were in fact laymen who would hold up their leader's hands; they would help provide needed strength.

Mr. Patrick called for the men of the Original Free Will Baptist Church to be men of war, to hold up their preachers' hands, to hold up the hands of those who lead our denominational enterprises. A State Layman's League Convention would help men to do so, for it would serve to organize men for worship, stewardship purposes, and service. Such an organization would be a means by which laymen could exalt Christ through the agencies God has provided; and the local church serves as the point where such an endeavor should begin.—(June 2, 1982)

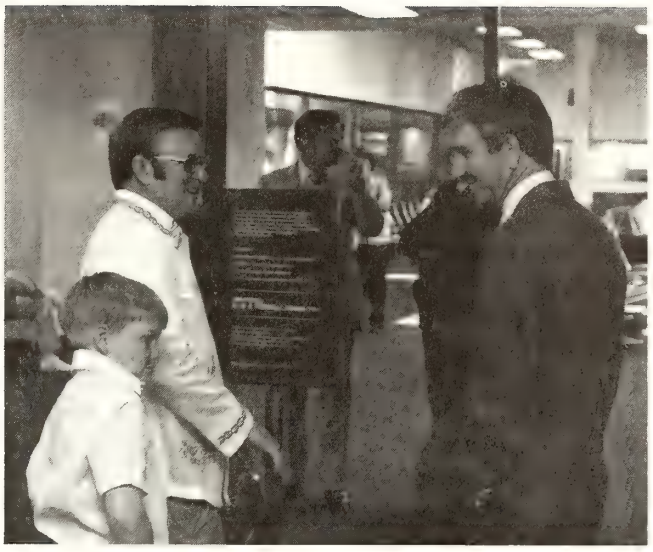
Youth Convention Marked by Enthusiasm

Over 600 young people, sponsors, and ministers gathered in the gymtorium at Lenoir Community College earlier this spring for the 1982 State Youth Convention. Enthusiasm characterized the day, and much was accomplished for the cause of Christ, for it was on this occasion that new officers were elected and winners of various competitions were declared. —(June 9, 1982)

Bakers Arrive Home on Furlough

July 21 was a very special and exciting day for those of us who waited at the Raleigh-Durham airport for the Baker family to arrive from the Philippines. The plane came roaring in on time. After a few minutes of eye straining and neck stretching, we saw them emerge from the arrival area. The next few minutes were spent in handshakes and hugs as the Bakers were once more reunited with their friends and family.

The Bakers are now residing at 503 Quail Drive, Goldsboro, NC 27530; their phone number is (919) 735-2694.—(August 11, 1982)



College Hall to Become a Reality

The Free Will Baptist Church assembled by conference Sunday, August 29, to begin the most ambitious construction project in the history of Mount Olive College. A groundbreaking ceremony for College Hall including an estimated 1,000 persons was held following an announcement by President W. Burkette Raper that the goal of 1.5 million in gifts and pledges had been reached.

College Hall is an athletic, physical education, and convention center scheduled for construction on the new campus beginning in late September or early October.

Representatives of churches from the seven conferences ringed the roped-off area representing the construction site and dug around the perimeter of the building. Inside the area and facing the audience, persons representing the church, college, and community led the group by turning the first shovelfuls.

(Continued on Page 13)

January Is Retirement Homes Month

If our Lord Jesus Christ tarries beyond our lifetime we will all need a place to spend our retirement years. Our parents are facing those years of rest and relaxation (retirement) now or they will in the very near future. Coupled with this is the ever-increasing inflation rate which is reducing our purchasing power. Think of it, my fellow Christians—will our parents, and we in later years, be able to retire with dignity?

The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists through its institution—The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes—is today with foresight in the process of preparing a place of retirement for its members and denominational workers.

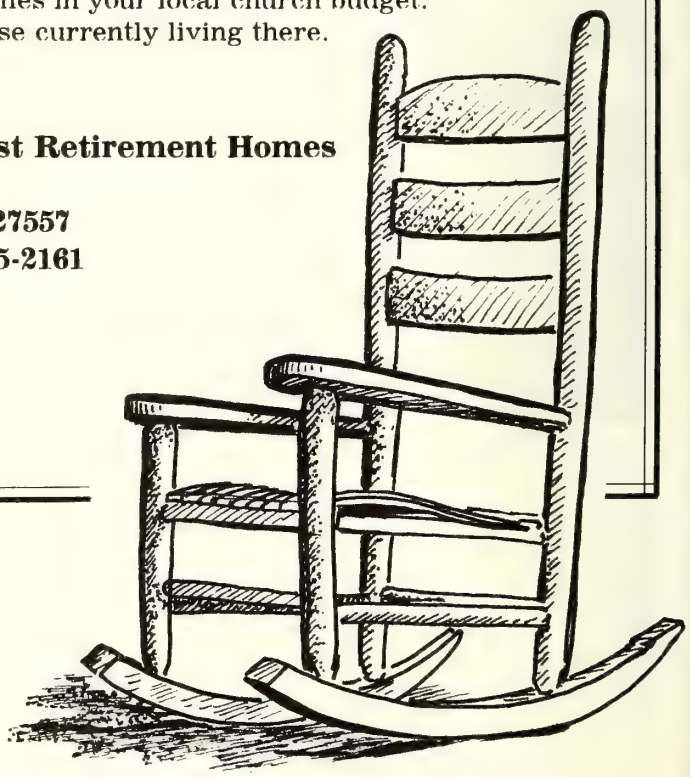
Social Security helps, but Social Security alone will not be enough! It is imperative that we begin planning today for our future retirement—that is, if we hope to retire in comfort. Every dollar Free Will Baptists invest in our denominational Retirement Homes will insure that each of us may have a comfortable retirement in a Christian environment.

The Retirement Homes Board is asking each Free Will Baptist during the fiscal year 1982-83 to contribute $5 in support of this ministry. Your dollars will be used for present operations as well as development to meet future needs. Your $5 investment will help provide the possibility of that comfortable, affordable retirement apartment for your parents in the **near** future and for **you** when you reach those later years.

What else can you do right now? Good question—for you can:

1. Pray for your Retirement Homes Board of Directors for guidance and leadership.
2. Pray for God's provisions for financial support.
3. Send your personal gifts.
4. Include your denominational Retirement Homes in your local church budget.
5. Visit the Retirement Homes grounds and those currently living there.

Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes
Box 250
Middlesex, NC 27557
Phone: (919) 235-2161



MISSIONARY CONFERENCE GREAT SUCCESS

Westside Church, Kinston, pastored by the Rev. Wayne King, held its first Annual Faith Promise Missionary Conference on November 5-7. The sanctuary was beautifully decorated for the conference with missionary mottos posted around the walls of the church. The theme of the conference was "A Story to Tell to the Nations."

Each session of the conference was specifically planned with special music, slides and ministry of the Word, to raise the mission consciousness of those attending, and to help us realize our responsibility in reaching the lost around the world with the gospel. On Friday night of the conference special emphasis was placed on India through a slide presentation by the Rev. Harold Jones. News was also given about Free Will Baptist work in Mexico. The Rev. Fred Baker, missionary to the Philippines, brought the evening message.

The Saturday night activities began with a potluck supper in the church fellowship hall. The food was delicious and the fellowship great. On this night we took a trip to China through a slide presentation by Lee Lancaster. Lee is a student at North Carolina State University and spent this past summer in China along with a group of Christian students from the United States. This was followed by a very inspiring film, "The John Beekman Story."

Sunday was filled with activities. During the Sunday school, Fred and Linda Baker, Lee Lancaster, William and Lydia Vanderploy, guests for the conference, taught different classes with special emphasis on missions. Brother Fred Baker brought the morning message. Before the Sunday night service a light supper was served by the church members. We then took a trip via slides to the Philippines. The evening message was brought by the Rev. Harold Jones. Then came the time to tally the faith promise cards. As Brother King announced the progress of the faith promise tally, you could feel the excitement and joy of the congregation increasing until the total reached $3,912. With this we joined in a prayer of praise and thanksgiving to our Lord. He had done exceeding abundantly above our expectations. To God be the glory! We rejoice with Brother King and his congregation for this step by faith. 1983 will be filled with testimonies of God's provision in supplying each faith promise.

Many of you are thinking, what is a faith promise? Faith promise giving is trusting God to give what you know you cannot give. It is a commitment between the Christian and the Lord. This commitment, or promise, is made in dependence upon God, and in faith that He will supply that which you trust Him to supply. The amount of the promise is determined through prayer, as the Lord impresses an amount in your mind you promise to trust Him to supply that amount. A faith promise is not a pledge from your income or a part of your tithe. It is trusting God to supply for His mission program from His vast

(Continued on Page 15)

Free Will Baptist
HOME
MISSIONS
Box 38
Ayden, N C 28513-0038
Phone 919/746-4963

December 20, 1982

Dear Friends,

We are in desperate need of your immediate help! For many years our people have been telling us they wanted to see full-time Home Missions pastors. This year has seen the first of our missionaries on full-time salaries. We have four full-time pastors and a full-time director. Our expenses are a little over $2,000 per week, and our income is not coming up to this.

Please help us continue our support of our eight new churches. Presently, we have the best qualified, experienced and trained of workers. Our missions are potentially strong churches.

Last year, twenty-five of our churches provided over 40% of our total support. One hundred fifty churches provided the rest of our funds. This means one hundred of our churches did not contribute to Home Missions.

I realize these are difficult times, but we need your help! Please present this need to your church.

Yours for Home Missions,

Charles W. Crisp
Director/Treasurer

Cragmont Assembly . . .

NOVEMBER 1982 RECEIPTS

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE	
Albemarle Youth Convention	$ 76.00
Total	$ 76.00
CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE	
Casey's Chapel	$ 150.00
Hopewell	72.89
Palmer Memorial	95.14
Powhatan	150.00
Total	$ 468.03
CENTRAL CONFERENCE	
Elm Grove	$ 400.00
Friendship Church Sunday School	25.00
Greenville, First	300.00
Willing Workers Greenville, First	20.00
Hickory Grove YFA	25.00
Hull Road	200.00
King's Cross Roads	950.00
Peace AFC-YFA	50.00
Reedy Branch Sunday School	942.07
Saratoga Sunday School	226.00
Second Union Meeting, Central	14.38
Spring Branch	175.00
Williamston, First	27.17
Winterville	100.00
Greenville Service Woman's Auxiliary	10.00
Edgewood Sunday School and Church	30.00
Sweet Gum Grove	25.00
Total	$ 3,519.62
EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Arapahoe	$ 10.00
Bethlehem Woman's Auxiliary	50.00
Cabin	25.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	10.00
Fifth Union Meeting, Eastern Conference	15.00
Flood's Chapel	5.00
Pilgrims Rest	10.00
Wardens Grove	30.35
Total	$ 155.35
PIEDMONT CONFERENCE	
Holy Cross	$ 50.00
Total	$ 50.00
WESTERN CONFERENCE	
Barnes Hill	$ 440.00
First Union Western Conference	100.00
First Western, Sunday School Convention	61.00
Marsh Swamp	10.00
Milbournie Church	37.50
Northern	25.00
Rains Cross Roads Woman's Auxiliary	25.00
Rock Springs	120.00
Sherron Acres	175.00
Watson's Grove	50.00
People's Chapel	5.00
Total	$ 1,048.50
INDIVIDUAL GIFTS	
Vendora Sutton	$ 150.00
Max Gardner	20.00
Irene Gordon	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rackley	50.00
Lillie Rouse	5.00
Edith Smith	15.00
Florence Wiggs	50.00
Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Howell	100.00
Third Union District	25.00
Fourth Union District Central Conference	7.98
State Woman's Auxiliary Convention	8,029.33
Queenie Clark Sunday School Class	20.00
Total	$ 8,482.31
Total	$13,749.81

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries	$ 2,713.91
Utilities	2,388.49
Food	1,641.36
Maintenance and Supplies	168.75
Store	39.20
Taxes	49.57
Maintenance Repairs	569.37
Gas	164.25
Mileage and Travel	951.03
Promotional	29.80
Miscellaneous	15,075.00
Total	$23,790.73
MISCELLANEOUS	
Savings Certificate	$ 5,000.00
Refund Deposit Church Retreat	50.00
Refund on Golf Tournament	25.00
Savings Certificate	10,000.00
Total	$15,075.00

NOTICES

The Forty-Third Annual Meeting of the Membership of the Church Finance Association, Inc., will be held at the Reedy Branch Church, Route 1, Winterville, North Carolina, Tuesday, February 15, 1983, at 10:30 a.m. Each organization or individual holding membership is urged to represent in the Annual Meeting.

The Western Conference Board of Ordination will meet January 11, 1983, at Trinity Church near Clayton. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. Anyone wishing to appear before the Board at this time should notify the Rev. Ray Wells by phoning (919) 243-6498.

Ray Wells

Now is a good time to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

This column is something new we are trying this year. Its purpose is to be a practical, weekly resource for every person involved in the ministry of Christian education. I will be reviewing the significant books which have been and are being published, keep you informed as to current developments in Christian education, and provide practical information on teaching, educational administration, and the many other facets of Christian nurture.

I want this feature to be as helpful as possible to you, the Christian Nurturer. So, if you have any questions, problems, issues or subjects concerning Christian education, please let me know. I will either address them in this column or write you personally. You can reach me by writing or phoning: Bass Mitchell, Box 255, Cove City, North Carolina 28523; (919) 633-2683 or (919) 638-3436.

(**Next Week:** An Invaluable Resource for Church Education Leaders.)

Mount Olive College . . .

ADMINISTRATORS VISIT COLLEGE

Administrators from two-year public institutions throughout eastern North Carolina were invited to the campus recently to discuss Mount Olive College's new Bachelor of Applied Science degree with President W. Burkette Raper. Among those in attendance were (from left to right) Dr. Opey Jeanes, vice president and academic dean of Mount Olive College; Dr. Clyde Erwin, president of Wayne Community College; Dr. Charles Powell, vice president for Instructional Services of Wayne Community College; Bill Kemp, Goldsboro businessman and part-time faculty member at Mount Olive College; and President Raper.

Dr. Erwin commented that he was "well pleased with the program and with Mount Olive College's direction." He said Wayne Community would be totally supportive in the development of the new degree program, and that he liked the College's emphasis on flexibility. "You're proposing to take a student and design a program just for him, and I like that," concluded Erwin.

NEW DEGREE TO BE ADDED AT MOC

A Bachelor in Applied Science degree will be offered at Mount Olive College, in addition to the four-year programs already planned in religion, church ministries, business administration, accounting, and liberal arts. The new degree, approved by the College Board of Trustees, is designed specifically for graduates of two-year public institutions who already hold Associate in Applied Science degrees.

A student who is accepted for the Bachelor in Applied Science program will complete certain general education requirements and an area of concentration related to the student's technical field.

Students entering the new transfer degree program will be able to transfer up to 64 semester hours from their two-year institutions. Graduates from these colleges will be eligible to apply as transfer students to Mount Olive College for the academic year 1984-85.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president, explained why Mount Olive College is offering the new degree at a recent meeting with two-year public college administrators. He noted that an entirely different educational landscape has emerged since 1954 when there were 21 private two-year colleges in existence. "Only eight of these have remained as two-year private colleges, and all 58 of the state's public two-year institutions have come into being. We believe there is an educational service we can provide Eastern North Carolina and the graduates of these institutions," he emphasized.

Student Dean Clifford Swain from Craven Community College called Mount Olive College a "forerunner" in developing a transfer program for students attending the state's 58 community colleges, technical institutes, and technical colleges.

Thirteen administrators representing the following institutions attended the meeting: Wayne Community College, Sampson Technical Institute, Wilson Technical Institute, Pamlico Technical College, Johnston Technical College, James Sprunt Technical College, Craven Community College, and Carteret Technical College.

INCOME TAX WORKSHOP FOR MINISTERS

An income tax workshop for ministers will be offered at Mount Olive College on Saturday, January 15, from 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., in Room 209 of the Henderson Building. Information will be provided on tax planning and social security preparation as these topics relate to the minister.

Wives are invited to attend, and it is recommended that each minister bring the chairperson of his finance committee in order to help his

church understand the particular tax problems of the minister.

The workshop will be conducted by Martha Herndon, C.P.A. She is a member of the firm Massengill, Best, and Marham in Goldsboro.

There will be no charge for the workshop, but an offering will be received to help cover expenses.

Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the South Lobby of the Henderson Building.

Lunch will be served in the College cafeteria at 12:45 p.m. ($2 per person).

ADMISSIONS OFFICE OPEN ON JANUARY 8

The Admissions Office at Mount Olive College will be open on Saturday, January 8, from 9 a.m. until noon in order to accommodate students interested in registering for the spring semester.

Orientation for the spring semester will be held Monday, January 11, and registration will take place on Tuesday, January 12, beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the Henderson Building.

For more information on course offerings, contact Nancy Sampsell, Director of Admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; phone: (919) 658-2502.

CHURCH-COLLEGE GRANTS FOR FWB STUDENTS

In addition to various other kinds of financial aid, Mount Olive College has a special grants program just for Free Will Baptist students. Church-College Grants may cover up to $1,000 of the tuition a Free Will Baptist student must pay each academic year.

Churches who wish to participate may contribute up to $250 per semester, and the College will provide matching funds. Since there are two semesters in an academic year, one beginning in August and another in January, a student may receive up to $500 from his church and another $500 from the College for a total of $1,000 annually under this program.

To qualify, a student must be enrolled on a full-time basis taking not less than twelve semester hours per school term, and the church must send in advance of registration a check signed by the treasurer with the specification that the check is for a specific student's grant.

To be eligible for the Church-College Grants Program, a church must hold membership in the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists or the Paul Palmer Conference (Georgia).

For more information and a copy of the CHURCH-COLLEGE GRANTS BROCHURE, contact the Financial Aid Director at Mount Olive College, 209 North Breazeale Avenue, Mount Olive, NC 28365.

PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College,

(Continued on Page 15)

SEYMOUR JOHNSON CHAPLAIN ADDRESSES MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE STUDENTS

Lieutenant Colonel John B. Narron (center), chaplain at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, is pictured with Mount Olive College's chaplain, the Rev. Frank Harrison (left), and Dr. Michael Pelt, religion professor (right), following the Christmas chapel service at Mount Olive College. Narron advised the students to keep their faith in God, their family, their church, and in themselves.

Narron has been Installation Staff Chaplain at the base in Goldsboro since May 1982. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1957 and has been awarded both the Air Force Commendation Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal.

As an ordained Free Will Baptist minister, Narron pastored the First Church in Kinston, Howell Swamp Church at Walstonburg, Sweet Gum Grove Church in Pitt County, and Rose of Sharon Church in Martin County prior to his enlistment. He holds degrees from Atlantic Christian College and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He is married to the former Marie Hester of Bladenboro, and they have three children: John Mark, stationed at Vance Air Force Base; Amy Elizabeth of Greenville; and Ruth Marie, a senior at Atlantic Christian College. Both John Mark and Ruth are graduates of Mount Olive College. The Narrons reside in Goldsboro.

Family Devotions . . .

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

Scripture Reading—Genesis 41-44

THAT'S WHY I LOVE HIM!

An old Indian chief constantly spoke of the Lord Jesus and what He meant to him. "Why do you talk so much about Jesus?" asked a friend. The old chief did not reply, but slowly, deliberately gathered some sticks and bits of grass. He made a circle of them. In the circle he placed a caterpillar. Still silent, he struck a match and lit the sticks and bits of grass. They watched the caterpillar. As the fire caught around the circle, the trapped caterpillar began to crawl around rapidly, seeking a way of escape.

As the fire advanced, the helpless caterpillar raised its head as high as it could. If the creature could have spoken, it would have said, "My help can come only from above."

Then the old chief stooped down. He extended his finger to the caterpillar which crawled up his finger to safety. "That," said the old chief glowingly, "was what the Lord Jesus did for me! I was lost in sin. My condition was hopeless. I was trapped. Then the Lord Jesus stooped down, and in love and mercy He drew me out of the 'horrible pit' of sin and shame. How can I help but love Him and talk of His wondrous love and care?"

I will not work my soul to save,
For that my Lord has done,
But I will work like any slave,
For love of God's dear Son!

MONDAY, JANUARY 10

Scripture Reading—Genesis 45-48

MOODY'S LOVE FOR JESUS

"The first time I saw Mr. Moody," said Mr. Reynolds, "was in a little shanty that had been abandoned by a saloon keeper. Mr. Moody had gotten the place to hold a meeting in at night. I was there a little late, and the first thing I saw was a man standing up, holding a Negro boy, and trying to read to him the story of the prodigal son. A great many of the words he could not make out and had to skip them. I thought: 'If the Lord can use such an instrument as that for His honor and glory, it will astonish me!' After the meeting was over, Moody said to me, 'Reynolds, I have only one talent. I have no education, but *I love the Lord Jesus Christ!* I want to do something for Him. Pray for me!' "

Saviour! teach me day by day,
Love's sweet lessons to obey;
Sweeter lessons cannot be,
Loving Him who first loved me.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

Scripture Reading—Genesis 49, 50; Exodus 1-3

CONVINCED INTELLECTUALLY

I had been convinced intellectually of a Supreme Being. All nature pointed to it, all science affirmed it. But God to me had been an impersonal power and heretofore I flinched from anything *mysterious*. Universal laws readily enough point to a Supreme Intelligence. But one does not *love* a Supreme Intelligence, a Universal Truth, or a Divine Law. Not until God becomes a loving Father intimately concerned with your personal problems are you able to love your God with your heart, your mind, and your soul.

With a childlike heart of love,
At Thy bidding may I move;
Prompt to serve and follow Thee,
Loving Him who first loved me.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

Scripture Reading—Exodus 4-7

LOVE AND SERVICE

As Gustave Dore was putting the finishing touches on the face of Christ in one of his paintings, an admiring friend stepped quietly into the studio. She looked with bated breath upon the painting. Dore sensed her presence and said graciously, "Pardon, madam, I did not know you were here." She answered, "Monsieur Dore, you must love Him very much to be able to paint Him thus!" "Love Him, madam?" exclaimed Dore, "I do love Him, but if I loved Him better I could paint Him better!"

If we loved Him better, we could serve Him better.

Teach me all Thy steps to trace,
Strong to follow in Thy grace:
Learning how to love from Thee,
Loving Him who first loved me.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

Scripture Reading—Exodus 8-12

I WANT TO LOVE THEE

As an old man was walking to work one morning, Jesus' question to Peter came to his mind: "Simon . . . lovest thou me?" He wished with all his heart that he could answer as Peter did. He felt sad that he couldn't. Then this thought came to him: "If I cannot say so much as Peter, perhaps I could say, 'Lord, Thou knowest that I do *not* love Thee.' " He found some comfort in his honest confession. But as he walked along he said, "Lord, Thou knowest that *I want* to love Thee." He began to think of Christ's great love for him. He thought of Christ's life and of His death as his substitute. From his heart burst forth the affirmation, "Lord, Thou knowest that I do love Thee!" He asked Christ to come into his heart and make him a child of God. He went on his way rejoicing—a new creature in Christ Jesus!

Love in loving finds employ—
In obedience all her joy;
Ever new that joy will be,
Loving Him who first loved me.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

Scripture Reading—Exodus 13-16

ONE THING MORE I ASK

Dear God, another day is done
And I have seen the golden sun
Swing in the arch from east to west
And sink behind the pines to rest.
I thank Thee that Thou gavest me
The power of sight that I may see
The tinted glories of Thy skies,
An earthly glimpse of Paradise;
The power to hear the evening breeze
Swelling in organ harmonies;
The power to feel the tender grasp
Of loving hands in friendship's clasp;
I thank Thee for these gifts to me,
But one thing more I ask of Thee:
From out Thy bounteous, gracious hand
Give me the power to understand,
To understand—to sympathize—
To note the pain in others' eyes;
To have the power rightly to read
The kindly motive of each deed.

And this I humbly ask of Thee
Because I know Thou lovest me. Amen.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

Scripture Reading—Exodus 17-21

LOVE NEVER FAILETH

A little five-year-old boy in an orphanage habitually stole things from the other children and hid them in his locker. The superintendent reasoned with him, but to no avail. Then he tried different kinds of discipline. Still the child continued his thievery. "Possibly the child takes things which do not belong to him to compensate for the lack of parental love," suggested one. "Let's lavish love on him!" In different ways, the officials of the orphanage demonstrated to the child that they had genuine love for him. Within a short while a wonderful change was observed! He no longer took things from the other children. "Love never faileth." Try it!

One Christmas William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, wanted to send a message of encouragement to Salvationists throughout the world. A lengthy message was prohibitive, so he chose a message of but one word: Others!

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 5)

College Hall will be financed by a 1.5 million bond issue dated October 1.

Students who moved on campus Sunday will be in the first four-year graduating class at Mount Olive as well as the first class to use the College Hall facility. President Raper called College Hall the "flagship" for the baccalaureate program.

According to President Raper, completion of the project will coincide with the addition of the junior year in 1984 at Mount Olive College. —(September 15, 1982)

The Challenge

When we turned the calendar from 1981 to 1982, we were reminded that another year had passed into history and eternity. One might wonder how we as a church did during that time. Comparing membership figures for organizations in the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists for 1979 and 1981, we found deficits. Figures revealed the following net losses: Church membership 740, Sunday school membership 1599, League membership 175, AFC membership 52, and Woman's Auxiliary membership 47.—(October 20, 1982)

The Sunday School Lesson . . .

For January 9

TEACHING ABOUT COMPASSION

Lesson Text: Luke 10:25-37
Memory Verse: Luke 10:27

I. INTRODUCTION

It used to be easy to love our neighbors, because we knew who they were. Neighbors were the Ashbrooks who lived on the corner, the Pilchers who lived across the street, and the Smiths who lived just across the railroad tracks that bordered our property. They lived close to us and we liked them. Those were the days when we did not have to hop in the car and drive to the store when we ran out of sugar or lard. A walk across the street with an empty cup in hand would suffice.

We knew about our neighbors' private lives. We watched each other's children grow up; we would drop in often into the neighbors' kitchens for a chat and a bite of whatever was cooking on the stove. We would help each other do yard work and fix the automobiles. Yes, those were the days!

But Jesus' idea of a neighbor is not what I always picture in my mind when that word is mentioned. When the lawyer asked, "Who is my neighbor?" Jesus did not answer with a description that fit the neighbors I knew.

Who is my neighbor? He is (1) Not necessarily someone who lives close by. (2) Not necessarily someone in my social structure as is the case in most neighborhoods. He may be someone who lives in a poorer or wealthier section of town. (3) Not necessarily someone who has a familiar name and face. (4) Not necessarily someone who shares my religious convictions. (5) Not necessarily someone who likes me. He may be someone who despises me. (6) Not necessarily someone who can help me when I am out of sugar or lard. He may be someone who needs my help and may never be able to repay the favor.

As I think back on the "good old days," I also remember those shabbily dressed strangers who used to come off the railroad tracks and knock on the door asking for a meal. And we always fed them. I imagine each transient told his friends about our house because they all seemed to know that they could get a meal there. I thought we were feeding tramps, but now I know that we were feeding our neighbors.

Today's lesson begins with a concern about who one's neighbor is, but ends with a concern about how one can be a good neighbor. We surely will not study this lesson and then enter the week's activities with a "business as usual" attitude. We will be changed.

Jesus had just sent out the seventy to minister to people's needs (Luke 10:1). Those seventy came back rejoicing because so much good was done when unselfish service was offered in the name of Jesus (v. 17). The victorious account of the seventy caused Jesus to offer again a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the joy and promise of future triumph implied in the obedient service of the meek and lowly. Following this Jesus spoke a private word to the seventy (vv. 21-24). We cannot tell if the question of the lawyer in our text was asked in the midst of this discussion with the seventy or at some occasion shortly afterward. It seems most probable that this even took place in or near Jerusalem.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. The parable of the Good Samaritan teaches that one's neighbor is anyone whom it is within our power to help.

B. This parable abolishes the word "foreigner" and transforms the word "neighbor" and makes the whole world kin.

C. Christianity is a Person—Jesus Christ; whereas religion is a set of beliefs based upon ritualism.

D. Pity is a fleeting thing; but compassion is permanent enough to see that the needs of the one we love are met.

E. The parable ends without telling us what the lawyer did. This is not important. The important thing is what will you do for the needs of the world?

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

"When Jesus asked which of the three was neighbor to the wounded man, the lawyer did not say, 'The third one' or 'The last of the three' or 'The Samaritan.' He said, *He that shewed mercy on him.* What that man was—a Samaritan or a Jew, a Greek or a Roman, really had nothing to do with it. What he *did* marked him as a neighbor."—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

News and Notes

Indian Springs Celebrates Season

The members of Indian Springs Church near Seven Springs celebrated the birth of Jesus the Christ with their annual Christmas program on Friday evening, December 17, 1982.

After a medly of traditional carols, "The Christmas Gospel" was presented by the Rev. Grady Davis, pastor, and two youth class members, Michael Lane and Shannon Leroy. The church choir presented an arrangement of "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day," after which Guy Thorton, Tammy Thorton, and Maxie Garner sang, "Evergreen." The congregation recited "The Lord's Prayer" after a candlelight love offering for the Children's Home was received. The evening's activities ended with a time of fellowship.

New Year's Eve found the congregation assembled again for a watch night service. A time of testimonials preceded singing by "The King's Messengers" of Pikeville. The service concluded at midnight with a breakfast in the fellowship hall.

Black Jack Grove Enjoys Holidays

The members of Black Jack Grove Church, Goldsboro, enjoyed the Christmas season tremendously. The Ladies' Circle conducted a church-wide solicitation of food for a needy family, which was delivered on December 16, 1982. The Young Adult Sunday School Class gave a Christmas party for sixteen children at O'Berry Center and twelve adults at Cherry Hospital on December 14. This class also prepared gifts for sixteen persons at Oak Manor Nursing Home in Goldsboro.

Without a doubt, this congregation learned that it is more blessed to give than to receive. The Rev. Dennis Pollock is pastor of Black Jack Grove Church.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 7)

storehouse. He can and will if we trust Him.

The Faith Promise Plan has been used to support missionary outreach in the United States for at least 100 years. It seems to have been initiated by A. B. Simpson in his missionary conference in the 1880's and has been used widely by the Christian and Missionary Alliance, which he founded. When the late A. W. Tozer was asked about the origin of the Faith-Promise Plan, he replied, "As far as I know, the idea originated with Dr. Simpson, of course, Simpson thought it originated with Paul."

Your church can also have a Faith Promise Missionary Conference. This is one of the best ways to increase your missions giving. If Free Will Baptists are going to continue to have an effective Foreign Missions program, giving must increase. God is able if we will only trust Him.

The Foreign Missions office is ready to help you with this program. The Rev. Wayne King will also be happy to help any church that is interested in this type conference. Give us an opportunity to explain this to you. Your church will be greatly blessed. Write The Board of Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 38, Ayden, North Carolina 28513, or call 746-4963. We will be looking forward to hearing from you.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 11)

will be the guest speaker at New Haven Church in Craven County on Sunday, January 9, at 11 a.m. At 9:45 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes.

The pastor of New Haven Church is the Rev. David Cauley.

RUDENE KENNEDY TO TEACH COURSE

The Life of Christ will be taught by Rudene Kennedy, through the Paul Palmer Institute of Mount Olive College, beginning Tuesday, January 18, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Verona Church. The course will focus on the historical background and the teachings of Christ.

The class will meet on a weekly basis through March 8. The registration fee for the course is $20.

NOTICES

The Fifth Eastern District Youth for Christ Rally will be held January 8, 1983, at 7:30 p.m. at Bridgeton Church, Bridgeton. The program will consist of a talent show. Each church is asked to have about 10 minutes of talent for the program.

Linda Williams
Acting Secretary

A special membership meeting of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. will be held January 11, 1983, at 10 a.m. The meeting will be in the multipurpose room located within the Foundation facility, 811 North Lee Street, Ayden.

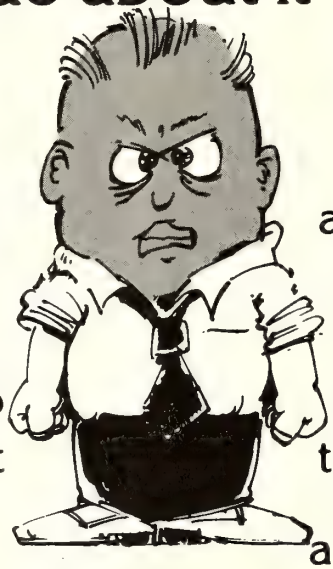
Robert May
Secretary

The ministers of the Cape Fear Ministerial Association took on the task of relocating the Smithfield Bible and Bookstore. Much appreciation is due to those who worked so faithfully.

If there are others who would like to contribute to this cause, they are asked to contact the Rev. T. C. Farmer by writing him at Route 2, Box 398-C, Smithfield, NC 27577; or by phoning (919) 934-0575. All checks should be made payable to the Cape Fear Ministerial Association.

ANGER

Yours and mine and what to do about it



Feeling outraged? Your boss chew you out today? Traffic bad on the way home tonight? Did your pot-roast burn?

Well, listen up... 'cause we have a book for you!

It's a book that will change your outlook on anger. It's a book that will make your boss' yelling seem like a kitten's purr. A book that'll make the freeway seem like a ferry boat ride. A book that will turn a ruined dinner into a night on the town.

Don't get outraged, get...

ANGER

Yours & mine &
what to do about it

by Richard P. Walters

Available through the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and its branch bookstores—New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston and Whiteville

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

What Good Is Being Revered?

Before you left home for church last Sunday morning, you joined the ranks of those who grabbed their Bibles on the dash out the door—the Bible you grabbed was one of several you most likely own. Your Sunday school class might have begun with someone passing out a Bible to members who somehow forgot theirs, for there is a stack of Scriptures located in the room for such a purpose. In your church auditorium, if characteristic of most today, each pew rack holds hymnals and a Bible. It has been conservatively estimated that "a billion copies of the Bible in at least a dozen English translations occupy the homes, hotels, hospitals, and churches of America." But what good is it to have so many copies when they are unused? We treat the Word of God so lightly that *Reader's Digest* calls it "the most unread best seller."

Most Christians revere the Bible more than read it. Yes, it is carried to church, and sometimes to school and other meetings, but we rarely consult it. Every January we resolve to read all the way through the Bible and remember what it says, but it is not long before we find ourselves skipping around, looking through the Scriptures for a quick emotional lift. We find it easier to let Sunday morning sermons become a substitute for personal study. But we do so at the risk of starving spiritually! (The Scriptures cited in the "Family Devotions" section of this publication, if read, will help an individual read through the Bible in 1983.)

The Bible is our blueprint for living. Since the Word relates how our lives should be built on the firm foundation of Christ, since it tells us how to face difficulties and trials, since the teachings therein yield helpful insight on how to live more Christlike, it is no wonder that the world in which we live—and today's Christian community—is in such a turmoil! We have not followed the blueprint. We are acting and living like soldiers without the right marching orders. We must read the Bible to know what it says. We cannot let someone read it for us and expect to know for sure the truths found therein.

We should read the Bible prayerfully. John Newton said, "By one hour's intimate access to the throne of grace, where the Lord causes His glory to pass before the soul that seeks Him, you may acquire more true spiritual knowledge and comfort than by a day's or week's converse with the best of men, or the most studious perusal of many folios."

The Bible should be read systematically; it should be read carefully. We would do well to follow Martin Luther's example; he studied the Bible as one would gather apples: "First, I shake the whole tree that the ripest might fall. Then I climb the tree and shake each limb, and then each branch and twig, and then I look under each leaf."

What good are the dozens of Bibles we prize at home? It is time we start reading and studying the Scriptures. Have we not been admonished to "study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15)?

(The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the belief or policies of the editor or of *The Free Will Baptist.*)

BIBLICAL INERRANCY

by Floyd B. Cherry

Since the introduction of a resolution regarding biblical inerrancy at the 1982 North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists at its annual session in September, there has been much said and written on the subject. Some of it has been interesting; some of it reasonable; and some of it has been inane. After reading my contribution on the matter you may classify it as you wish.

Let it be clearly understood that we are not writing this article to argue with anyone, try to answer any article that has been written on the subject, or be critical of *The Free Will Baptist* for the articles which have been published. Our sole purpose in this article is to define, discuss, and defend biblical inerrancy.

Defined

What does the term "Biblical Inerrancy" mean? It simply means that those who hold to the doctrine of biblical inerrancy believe that the Bible in its original form as it came from the hands of holy men of old as they were inspired by the Holy Spirit was without error in all matters and is wholly true in all of its parts. On the other hand, those who deny the doctrine of biblical inerrancy believe that there are errors or untruths in the Bible. Usually, it is expressed in this manner: "We believe that the Bible is a sufficient and infallibly true rule and guide to salvation and all Christian worship and service, but in matters of history and science contains errors and untruths."

Since we believe in biblical inerrancy, a special effort has been made to state the position of those who do not believe this doctrine. Of course, there are those who do not believe that it is even true in matters of salvation and worship, but we are not concerned with this group.

Discussed

Can there be an inerrant gospel without inerrant Scripture? In other words, can the gospel be true if the Bible is not true in all its parts? "Since the Bible was given by God for the salvation of men, it is argued that only the salvatory content of Scripture is consequential theologically, and nothing is lost if the Bible turns out to be fallible when it deals with matters irrelevant to redemptive truth and morality."[1]

No matter how carefully the errantists state the matter, there is a dualism involved in such statement. Some call it "Partial Inspiration," and say that only parts of the Bible are inspired. Others, such as Daniel Fuller, of the Fuller Theological Seminary, say that we have in the Bible revelatory material and non-revelatory material. It is argued that God gave the ideas to the writers and they expressed it in their own words; therefore, the ideas about salvation are God's Word; whereas, the rest of the Bible is not. Anyway they say it, the dualism still exists, and the belief that the Bible is not God's Word but does contain the Word of God is there.

If part of the Bible is God's Word; and, therefore, true; and the other part is not God's Word; and, therefore, may not be true, how are we to separate the part that is true from that part which is untrue? Is there some special criterion that God has given to be used for this purpose?

Not only do we need to know the criteria to be used to separate the truth from the untrue, but we also need to know who has the God-given authority to divide the Bible into truth and error?

Liberal theologians sometimes point out that since we are saved by a living Saviour and not a book, it is possible to have a saving Christ and a Bible with errors in it. This sounds wonderful on the surface, but where do we get our knowledge of Christ? Any student of the life of Christ knows that very little mention is made of Him in secular history. All that we really know about Him comes from the Bible. If the Bible has historical errors, how do we know that the historical facts about the birth, life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ are true? By experience? Do you base your assurance upon an experience that may be

(Turn the Page)

emotionalism or upon the Word of God. "We are made safe by the blood, but we are made sure by the Word."[2]

Those who believe that the Bible has errors make a great deal of the fact that we do not have the original autographs of Scripture. This, of course, is true. But it is one thing to say that we do not have the original manuscripts of Scripture and quite another thing to say that they have errors and untruths. Since we do not have the originals, how do the errantists know that the "so-called" errors they have found in the Bible are in the originals. Is it not up to those who claim that there were errors and untruths in the originals to prove their claim?

It is not unusual to hear some say that although we are errantists, we hold the historical position of Original Free Will Baptists. If biblical errancy is the historical position of Original Free Will Baptists, how do you account for the fact that the original founders of the General Baptist Church from which we came: Smyth, Helways, and Murton, were inerrantists?[3]

If biblical errancy is the historical position of Original Free Will Baptists, why do the 1812 articles of faith read: "We believe the whole Scriptures are infallibly true, and that they are the only ruler of faith and practice?"[4] Is it not true that the latest revision committee said, "The Revision Committee adopted two of these confessions as the basis for the present revision, namely the Confessions of 1660 and 1812?"

It can be argued that for years, including the 1955 edition of the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina,* the article on the Bible read: "These are the Old and the New Testaments; they were written by holy men, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and are God's revealed word to man. They are a sufficient and infallible rule and guide to salvation and all Christian worship and service."[5] Two things can be said here. First, a fair and unbiased reading of this will convince one that the wording was meant to imply that all of the Bible is true and that all of the Bible is God's Word. Second, Free Will Baptists never heard of the doctrine of biblical inerrancy or errancy until recently when we began to have men trained in schools outside of the denomination.

If this is not true, ask any ten people you want to who have been Free Will Baptist fifty years or more, and see if they do not tell you that they have never heard of such thing until the last few years.

Defended

We believe that the Bible is God's Word and that it is without any mixture of error or untruth because of the character of God. "To make sure that we don't overlook the importance of God's truthfulness, three times the Scripture stresses that God cannot lie (Numbers 23:19; Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18)."[6] In Isaiah 65:16 the Lord calls Himself, "God of truth." In Jeremiah 10:10 the prophet writes, "The Lord is the true God." The New Testament agrees with the Old Testament in calling God a God of truth: "God is truthful (John 3:33); "that they may know you, the only true God" (John 17:3); "He is the true God" (1 John 5:20). If God is a God of truth, either one of two things have to be true—God did not write the Bible, or all of the Bible is not God's Word. Are you prepared to say that all of the Bible is not God's Word?

We believe in the inerrancy of the Scriptures because of the testimony of Jesus Christ. For the sake of space, we give the source and do not quote the Scriptures. Read them for yourself. Matthew 5:18; 19:4; John 10:35; Matthew 19:4, 5; 22:29; 23:35; Mark 7:13; Luke 24:44; John 5:39; 10:35. There are many more. When we read these testimonies of Jesus toward the word, we have three alternatives. We can say that He was a liar; we can say that He was ignorant, or we can say that He knew better but he accommodated Himself to the beliefs of the people. You take your choice. I believe that Jesus loved, respected, and knew the Word of God, and His testimony concerning it is true.

We believe in the inerrancy of the Scriptures because of the testimony of archaelogy. William F. Albright, recognized throughout the world as the leading Palestinian archaelogist of the twentieth century, attests that there is little doubt that archaelogy has confirmed the historical accuracy of Old Testament tradition.[7]

To conclude this article we quote a paragraph from John MacArthur in his book, *Why Believe the Bible.* You will note that he in turn is quoting from D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones writing in "Eternity" magazine in 1957. "In an article written for 'Eternity' magazine more than 20 years ago, D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones wrote words for the church of the '50's that are even more true for the church of today. Lloyd-Jones points out that the attacks on the Scripture's authority began in the middle of the eighteenth century with the beginning of what came to be known as the 'higher critical' view of Scripture. Naturalistic presuppositions, along with man's knowledge, new discoveries in science and human reasoning and understanding, were all brought to bear in an attempt to analyze the Bible and 'get at its real truth.' All of this developed into the movement we know as liberalism, which held sway

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TO THE EDITOR:

IN RESPONSE

To the Editor:

In the November 24 issue of this paper there appeared a response by Mike Scott to an article of October 27 which I wrote. That response suggested that I might not be "called of God to carry forth His Word" and insinuated that I am an "enemy of the faith." The response also pointedly stated that four outstanding twentieth century theologians were "enemies of the faith."

I do not need to defend Bultmann, Brunner, Tillich, and Niebuhr. What they have written they have written. Yet while I do not agree with everything Bultmann and Tillich have written, they are definitely *not* enemies of the faith. I admit very candidly and quite proudly that I have been influenced by the theology of Emil Brunner—he is a Biblical theologian if ever there was one. Reinhold and H. Richard Niebuhr have made a great impact with their expertise in Christian Ethics. H. Richard Neibuhr has written and lectured extensively on Free Will and Human Responsibility. I recommend *The Responsible Self,* an outstanding statement of Free Will Baptist philosophy and ethics. Even if we disagree with these men or any Christian theologian, we do not have a right to call them "enemies of the faith." Each of these men spent his entire life supporting, defending, uplifting, and proclaiming the Christian faith.

Now as for me and my so-called "doubts about the Bible." I do not doubt the Bible. I believe the Bible to be "God's revealed word to man, inspired by the Holy Spirit, a sufficient and infallibly true rule and guide to salvation and all Christian worship and service" (*Articles of Faith,* p. 43). However, in reading the Bible very carefully, I have found discrepancies (see article of October 27), but that does not alter my faith in God. I did not create the discrepancies. They are there for anyone to read. Free Will Baptists are not illiterate nor stupid. We can read, and we can see for ourselves that discrepancies exist. Yet I affirm Scripture as inspired by the Holy Spirit to human beings. Human beings do make mistakes—even when we are inspired by the Holy Spirit. The discrepancies in the Bible are minor and should not destroy our faith. In fact, I am uplifted knowing that God can and does use us imperfect, sometimes foolish, specimens of creation to proclaim His truth.

As for my being an enemy of the faith, I do not remember a day, even a second of my life that I did not believe in God and in His Son Jesus Christ. My parents taught me from the cradle about the love of God, about the true meaning of Christmas and Easter, about a Lord who loves me, died for me, and was resurrected to insure eternal life for me and everyone who believes in Him. I have always had faith in God. When I was eleven years old I made a public profession of that faith. I confessed my sins, received forgiveness, and was baptized. I have lived a morally clean life, even in my teen years when my peers were rebelling. I surely am not perfect, but basically (because of my faith) I have lived a morally clean life—and that by the grace of God. I was in high school when God called me into the gospel ministry; yes, God called me. God also called me to prepare for that ministry through formal, in-depth study of His Word. My faith in God as revealed in Jesus Christ continues to increase as I learn more about Him and see Him at work in this world. He is not an impersonal subject just for study. He is my Creator, Redeemer, Saviour, Sanctifier, Lord, Father, Friend. Me, an enemy of the faith? God forbid!

For you who have not read my article of October 27, please do so. I stand behind it.

Harry Grubbs

NOTICES

The Rev. Eddie Edwards has resigned as pastor of East Rockingham Church. January 16, 1983, will be his last Sunday.

Mr. Edwards' address is 308 Old Midway Road, Rockingham, NC 28379; telephone (919) 997-2996.

This is just a reminder to the clerks of the conferences and conventions that all minutes for the 1983 Yearbook are due. Please get the information in as soon as possible.

Editorial Department

Any youth group who wishes to have a junior—age 9-11, or intermediate—age 12-15 participate in North Carolina State Sword Drill may do so. Registration fee, $15 (notice change) is due on arriving at the convention, March 12, 1983, First Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina, 10 a.m. Anyone wishing a copy of the drill and rules, may contact Mrs. Margaret Ard, Route 1, Pink Hill, North Carolina 28572; phone 568-4685.

Mrs. Margaret Ard

OAK GROVE CHURCH CURRENT EVENTS

Oak Grove Church of Elm City held a baptismal service Sunday, December 5, 1982, at 6 p.m. There have been a total of 25 new members to be baptized and 23 members to join by letter since March 1, 1981, under the pastorate of the Rev. Clarence Harris.

Mr. Harris and his wife, Thelma, are former members of the First Church of Tarboro. He is a retired employee of Long Manufacturing Company of Tarboro, and is not only a dedicated Christian and pastor, but he is a very trustworthy friend to the people of Oak Grove Church.

God has been good to Oak Grove Church. In early 1982, He called one of its members, Wayne Whitley, to preach the gospel. Mr. Whitley is the first member that God has called to preach the gospel from that church.

Oak Grove Church has an active membership of 142, Sunday school attendance of 110, Ladies Auxiliary of 22, and YFA of 16. The youth of the church have won the attendance banner at the Youth Rallies 10 months in 1982.

The men of the church are in the process of forming a Men's Prayer Breakfast to be held the first Saturday morning of the month. They also have a fellowship supper each third Saturday night of the month.

Rose Hill Church Honors Choir Director

On December 22, 1982, the choir members of Rose Hill Church, Route 1, Winterville, observed an appreciation night in honor of their organist and choir director, Mrs. Alma Buck.

A simple Christmas fellowship was enjoyed along with delicious refreshments.

As a token of appreciation to her for the many hours she has spent, the many miles she has driven, and the anguish she, at times, must have felt, the choir made a contribution toward the building fund at Cragmont Assembly in the name and honor of Mrs. Buck.

Mrs. Alma Buck

The Rose Hill Choir says "thank you, Mrs. Buck for a job well done and the many years of service rendered. May our association be blessed for many more years."

Central District Youth To Meet

The Central District Youth meeting will be held at Bethany Church, near Winterville, on Saturday, January 15, at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting will include a special program that will be put on for your enjoyment. Please join the Central Youth at the meeting to help bring new ideas for the New Year with God. Everyone is invited to come and fellowship. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

NOTICES

The Eastern Conference Examining Board will meet on January 17, at 10 a.m., at Kinston Bible and Bookstore, Kinston, North Carolina. Anyone having business with the board is asked to come at this time.

Francis Garner
Secretary

The Central Conference Ordaining Council will meet at the Free Will Baptist Press, Monday, January 17, at 10 a.m. Anyone having business with the council is asked to contact Harry Grubbs at 756-8585 or 756-6600 for an appointment. You may come without an appointment and take your chance at seeing them.

Harry Grubbs
Secretary

If I could choose but one great gift,
Dear God, what would it be?
I diligently searched my heart
And then prayed fervently:
"God, give me charity!' "

January Is Retirement Homes Month

If our Lord Jesus Christ tarries beyond our lifetime we will all need a place to spend our retirement years. Our parents are facing those years of rest and relaxation (retirement) now or they will in the very near future. Coupled with this is the ever-increasing inflation rate which is reducing our purchasing power. Think of it, my fellow Christians—will our parents, and we in later years, be able to retire with dignity?

The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists through its institution—The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes—is today with foresight in the process of preparing a place of retirement for its members and denominational workers.

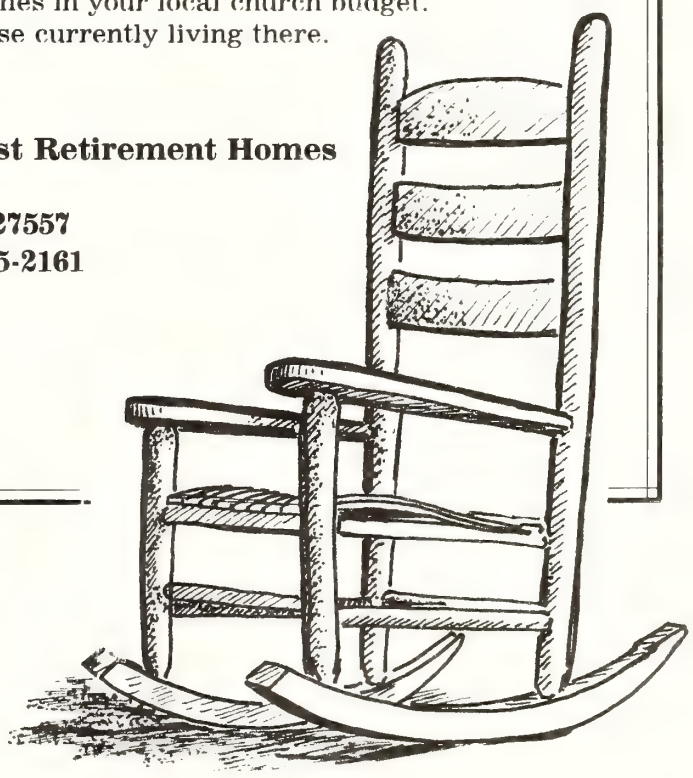
Social Security helps, but Social Security alone will not be enough! It is imperative that we begin planning today for our future retirement—that is, if we hope to retire in comfort. Every dollar Free Will Baptists invest in our denominational Retirement Homes will insure that each of us may have a comfortable retirement in a Christian environment.

The Retirement Homes Board is asking each Free Will Baptist during the fiscal year 1982-83 to contribute $5 in support of this ministry. Your dollars will be used for present operations as well as development to meet future needs. Your $5 investment will help provide the possibility of that comfortable, affordable retirement apartment for your parents in the **near** future and for **you** when you reach those later years.

What else can you do right now? Good question—for you can:

1. Pray for your Retirement Homes Board of Directors for guidance and leadership.
2. Pray for God's provisions for financial support.
3. Send your personal gifts.
4. Include your denominational Retirement Homes in your local church budget.
5. Visit the Retirement Homes grounds and those currently living there.

Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes
Box 250
Middlesex, NC 27557
Phone: (919) 235-2161



Sunday, January 23
Is Retirement Homes Sunday.

MORE ABOUT FAITH PROMISE GIVING

I want to share with you Chapter One from *Faith Promise for World Witness* by Norm Lewis. Don't fail to read this, it could have a profound effect on your understanding and response to world-wide evangelization.

"DO CHRISTIANS HAVE A PASSIONATE CONCERN FOR CHRIST'S PROGRAM? DO WE REALLY CARE?

"Robert Arthington never married. He lived in a single room and cooked his own meals. During his lifetime he gave over $500,000 for missionary work.

"Said Arthington, 'Gladly would I make the floor my bed, a box my chair, and another box my table rather than that men should die for want of the knowledge of Christ.'

"Why did he say that? Why did he live that way?

" 'Go ye into all the world,' Jesus Christ had commanded, 'and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned' (Mark 16:15, 16).

"Arthington's life was lived in obedience to those words.

"Everyone in the world who does not know Christ as Saviour is lost. This is what Jesus himself said. This is what the whole Bible teaches.

"What does it mean to be lost? It means no fellowship with Christ and eternity apart from God. You may have read all the Bible says on the lostness of mankind. You may believe it all. Still, no man on earth knows the real meaning of 'lost.' No mere man has ever felt more than a tiny part of the crushing weight of that awful fate.

"Only one Person knows the true meaning of the lostness of man. Jesus Christ suffered for our sin, enduring the infinite agony of the Cross to offer lost men a way of escape.

"To offer that 'way' (John 14:6) to everyone is our supreme obligation. DO WE CARE? We are commanded to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. DO WE CARE?

"Could a mariner sit idle
If he heard the drowning cry?
Could a doctor sit in comfort
And just let his patients die?
Could a fireman sit idle,
Let men burn and give no hand?
Can you sit at ease in Zion,
With the world around you damned?

—Leonard Ravenhill

"DO CHRISTIANS REALLY CARE? DO YOU?"

If Robert Arthington could so fully grasp the meaning of man's greatest need, then we must also respond in a positive way to the great commission, and do all we possibly can to reach every person with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Christ is man's *ONLY* HOPE!

THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

The mission of the church is missions. To make Christ known to all men is the task of the church. It is for this reason that the church remains in the world. This is the supreme task that Christ assigned the church.

To evangelize means to proclaim the gospel message that everyone who will may hear. It does not mean that every person who hears will be saved, but they should have the opportunity. We are commissioned to take Christ to the world. The very thing that gave vitality and life to the New Testament church is needed in our churches today. This is a realization of the churches' responsibility to make Christ known to every human being.

World evangelism is the supreme task of the church. This is the purpose of the local church, for from the local church springs the church universal. "World evangelization! This is the basic chord on which all music of the church is built. Whatever the variation, all must be resolved back to the basic chord." To reach every person on earth with the gospel is the goal which must be kept before every Christian. All the energies and resources of the church must be bent to this end.

No other project, however worthy, must be allowed to compete with this central purpose. Plans and schemes to make this old world a utopia must not sidetrack us. The mission of the church is to reach the lost with the gospel. The world is heading for judgment. The church must pour her resources into this task for which she was commissioned, while there is still time.

REMEMBER

"The church's goal will not be reached
Until the unreached have been reached."

NORTH CAROLINA FREE WILL BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION INSTITUTE

March 31, 1982—
December 31, 1982

CONVENTION RECEIPTS

Core Creek	$ 36.00
Free Union	12.00
Flood's Chapel	9.00
Rose Hill	60.00
Hickory Chapel	79.45
Kinston	120.00
Juniper Chapel	45.57
Third Union District Sunday School Convention	100.00
Second Union District Sunday School Convention	200.00
Total	$662.02

Respectfully submitted,
W. Milton Wiggs, *Treasurer*

AN EXPANDED VISION FOR MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

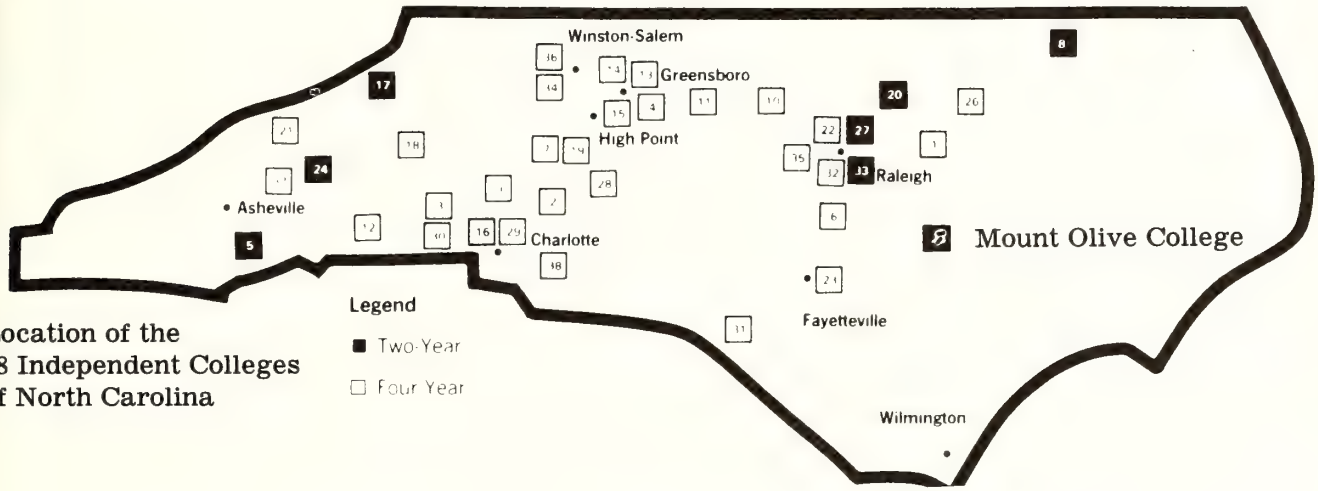
A Four-Year College

> "To establish, maintain and operate a four-year co-educational college for the Christian education of men and women." (Amended charter, 1982)

After thirty years of operation as a two-year college, Mount Olive will add the junior year in 1984 and the senior year in 1985. Three degrees will be offered:

A.B.	Bachelor of Arts
B.S.	Bachelor of Science
B.A.S.	Bachelor of Applied Science

As the only college related to the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, a four-year program will enable Mount Olive to provide a more adequate educational service to the Church. The four-year program will also broaden and strengthen the service of the College to its students and the area it serves.



Location of the 38 Independent Colleges of North Carolina

There is no independent senior college between Mount Olive and the coast, a distance of 75-100 miles. (Only two public institutions are in this area, East Carolina University at Greenville, a distance of 65 miles northeast, and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, a distance of 75 miles south.) In addition, graduates of the public two-year colleges in the area provide a large number of potential transfer students.

For more information

Visit, call or write

The Admissions Office
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365
Telephone 919/658-2502

COLLEGE HALL CONSTRUCTION SITE

Malcolm Yates, project superintendent for College Hall, checks the anchor bolts which will serve as reinforcement for the concrete columns of the building. He reports that the construction of the College's new athletic-convention-physical education center is on schedule and that T. A. Loving Co. should be finished pouring the concrete by mid-February. College Hall is scheduled for completion in 1984.

INCOME TAX WORKSHOP FOR MINISTERS

An income tax workshop for ministers will be offered at Mount Olive College on Saturday, January 15, from 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., in Room 209 of the Henderson Building. Bring your wife and a member of your church finance committee and learn more about tax planning and social security preparation.

FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP AT MOC

Mount Olive College will sponsor a Financial Aid Workshop on the campus, Saturday, January 22, from 9:30 a.m. until 12 noon. The workshop will be conducted by Betty Cobb, director of Financial Aid at Mount Olive, in Room 209 of the Henderson Building.

The workshop is open to parents and students attending any college in the fall of 1983 as well as those who are applying to Mount Olive.

Information will be provided to assist prospective students and their parents in applying for all types of financial aid—scholarships, grants, loans, and work study. Specific financial aid programs, including those offered at Mount Olive, and the application process will be presented in detail.

SPRING SEMESTER

Registration for the spring semester (day schedule) at Mount Olive College will remain open through Wednesday, January 26. Prospective students should contact the admissions office at (919) 658-2502 for information concerning openings.

SUMNER TO SPEAK

Dr. Eugene Sumner, Mount Olive College trustee and Meredith professor, will be the guest speaker for the College's Spring Convocation to be held on Tuesday, January 18, at 11 a.m. in Rodgers Chapel. The topic of his address will be "Preparation for a Vocation."

Dr. Sumner is an alumnus of Mount Olive College. He holds other degrees from Atlantic Christian College, Southeastern Baptist Seminary, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the University of Utah.

Dr. Sumner is an ordained Free Will Baptist minister, and he is presently serving as chairman of Meredith's Department of Sociology and Social Work.

NIGHT CLASSES IN RELIGION AT MOC

Spring Semester, 1983

Paul Palmer Institute

The Paul Palmer Institute program is designed to meet the needs of ministers and laypersons who cannot enroll in the regular college curriculum but who nevertheless wish to prepare themselves for more effective Christian service. As a service to Original Free will Baptists, Mount Olive College will offer the following courses at night, beginning in January, 1983.

New Testament, January 17—March 7, 1983, Mondays at 6:30-7:45 p.m., College Campus (Henderson Building, Room 115). Teacher: Dr. Michael R. Pelt. Cost: $20 for Institute credit; $10 for non-credit. (3 units credit)

Missions and Evangelism, January 17—March 7, 1983, Mondays at 8-9:15 p.m., College Campus, (Henderson Building, Room 109). This course is designed to acquaint the student with the modern mission movement and some methods of evangelism. Teacher: Fred Baker, Free Will Baptist Missionary to the Philippines. Cost: $20 for Institute credit; $10 for non-credit. (3 units credit)

College Credit Courses

For those persons interested in taking a course for College Credit the following courses will be offered at night.

New Testament, January 17—May 2, 1983, Mondays at 6:30-9:30 p.m., College Campus, (Henderson Building, Room 115). This course includes a study of the background and message of the New Testament. Teacher: Dr. Michael Pelt. (3 semester hours, College credit). Cost: $20.

(Continued on Page 15)

TRIBUTE TO THE REV. TAYLOR HILL

by Haymount Free Will Baptist Mission Members

The Rev. Taylor Hill

On December 5, 1982, God saw fit to take William Taylor Hill from this earthly life to meet his Heavenly Father. Taylor Hill was a man of many attributes, but the foremost one that stood out was his love and dedication to God and mankind. The life that he lived truly was an inspiration and example to Christians everywhere. His faith in God was portrayed in each step he took in life.

Among the many phases of his service to our denomination, he was involved in Home Missions for eighteen years. He started his first mission at Fayetteville in February 1964, which grew into a church that is now known as Eastwood. Under his pastorship and ministry, the Eastwood Mission became one of the top ten churches in our denomination in evangelism and denominational support. His church also served as the mother church for Victory and Catalpa Missions, which have both now been organized into churches. During the first five years of his ministry, he refused to be paid a salary.

In 1972, our State Home Missions Department was established and he was elected director, secretary and treasurer. Since then, he and the Home Missions Department have made many accomplishments. He served in this capacity until his illness forced him to resign in 1981.

Four and one-half years after becoming involved in our State Home Missions Department, he resigned as pastor of Eastwood Church to start another mission now known as Haymount Mission.

Other denominational activities that he was involved in included:

1. Recreational director for the Cape Fear Youth Conference,
2. Chairman of the Cape Fear Missions Board,
3. Served on the North Carolina Free Will Baptist Sunday School Board,
4. Secretary of the General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists and,
5. Served on the Cape Fear Board of Education.

He was always conscious of the needs of others. In 1969, he headed a campaign for the Sunday Blue Law. This law would not allow certain businesses in Cumberland County to be open on Sunday. This enabled Christians to attend their church rather than having to work. He collected approximately 9,000 signatures and succeeded in getting the Blue Law passed. As of now, this law is still in effect.

From the beginning of his ministry, he promoted the idea of a charity fund in the church. This fund was for the purpose of helping people in need. Anyone could give to this special fund after having paid their regular tithes. This program has fed numerous amounts of hungry people, clothed many bodies and provided shelter to a number of less fortunate individuals. He believed in the church members tithing on their income by taking 10% from their income and disbursing it to all our enterprises.

Though his accomplishments in life were many, he would take no credit. He often said, "I am what I am only by the grace of God."

Directly under his ministry, there have been several men ordained into the ministry of which the following are presently active in our Free Will Baptist denomination: Charles Parrish, Jesse Caton, Alton Howard, and Dean Kennedy.

We, at Haymount Mission are very fortunate and blessed to have had such a dedicated and upcompromising pastor. He will truly be missed; however, we know our loss is Heaven's gain.

PROGRAM BOOKS HAVE "HIDDEN TREASURE" AS THEME

The 1983 youth program books have as their theme the Bible. Each number in the "Hidden Treasure" series surveys the Scriptures and does so in such a way that the entire Bible is covered by the end of the year.

Prepared by Nina Grace Register, a member of Kinston Church, this is the first year that materials have been written for the Cherubs, AFC, and YFA; a leaders' guide, which should also be purchased, provides information about youth work on the state level, as well as giving some insight to conference workings.

The youth materials are available at the branch bookstores—Smithfield, Wilson, New Bern, Kinston, and Whiteville—or from the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Ayden store. The youth materials sell for $1.75 each, while the leaders' guide is $2.50.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

Scripture Reading—Exodus 22-26

HOW MANY COMMANDMENTS ARE THERE?

Years ago a bishop, wanting to test the hospitality of the members of one of the churches over which he had the oversight, dressed as a tramp and started on his unusual mission. Some rudely rebuffed him, saying, "Be gone!" Others showed kindness. One housewife began to lecture him, asking, "How many commandments are there?" Hesitantly, the "stranger" mumbled. "Eleven!" "I thought I hadn't misjudged you! Here, take this catechism, and the next time anyone asks you how many commandments there are say, 'Ten.' " The bishop went heavy-heartedly away!

The following Sunday in the pulpit of the community church he read his text: "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another" (John 13:34). Then the bishop said, "Friends, it would appear that with this *new commandment,* there are *eleven* commandments!"

The face of a certain woman in the audience crimsoned! Can you guess why?

Let us raise our standard of loving—the higher, the better.

MONDAY, JANUARY 17

Scripture Reading—Exodus 27-30

I PUT MYSELF IN THEIR SHOES

It was the custom of an Indian tribe to appoint a judge to go into the Indian villages and try evildoers. One time a young brave was chosen for the task. He wanted to judge righteously. He went into a dense, dark forest and prayed, "O Great Maker of Men, forbid that I judge any man until I have walked for two months in his moccasins!"

I know a minister whose life is dedicated wholly to God and to helping people who are in trouble. He cheerfully responds at any hour of the day or night to the calls of distressed people. "How can you respond so readily to calls for help from people whom you do not know, and who are unworthy of your help?" someone asked. The minister replied, "Here's the reason: In imagination I put myself in the shoes of needy, troubled ones and say to myself, 'I may be down tomorrow and in need of an encouraging word and a helping hand.' This consideration deepens my pity for the needy ones, and the constraining love of Christ impels me to do as I do!"

There are two ways of being united—frozen together, and melted together. What Christians most need is to be united in brotherly love.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

Scripture Reading—Exodus 31-34

LOVE DOESN'T COUNT THE COST

William Gladstone, in announcing the death of Princess Alice to the House of Commons, told a touching story. The little daughter of the Princess was seriously ill with diphtheria. The doctors told the Princess not to kiss her little daughter and endanger her life by breathing the child's breath. Once when the child was struggling to breathe, the mother, forgetting herself entirely, took the little one into her arms to keep her from choking to death. Gasping and struggling for her life, the child said, "Mamma, kiss me!" Without thinking of herself, the mother tenderly kissed her daughter. She got diphtheria and some days thereafter she went to be forever with the Lord.

Real love forgets self. Real love knows no danger. Real love doesn't count the cost. The Bible says: "Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it" (Song of Solomon 8:7).

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

Scripture Reading—Exodus 35-38

HOW HE FOUND JOY AND CONTENTMENT

There was a wealthy nobleman in Italy who had grown tired of life. He had everything one could wish for except happiness and contentment. He said, "I am weary of life. I will go to the river and there end my life." As he walked along, he felt a little hand tugging at his trousers. Looking down, he saw a frail, hungry-looking little boy who pleaded, "There are six of us. We are dying for want of food!" The nobleman thought, "Why should I not relieve this wretched family? I have the means." Following the little boy, he entered a scene of misery, sickness and want. He opened his purse and he emptied all of its contents, saying, "I'll return tomorrow, and I will share with you more of the good things which God has given to me in abundance!"

He left that scene of want and wretchedness, rejoicing, with no thought of ending his life.

Ah, how skillful grows the hand
That obeyeth love's command,
It is the heart, and not the brain,
That to the highest doth attain,
And he who follows love's behest
Far excelleth all the rest.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

Scripture Reading—Exodus 39, 40; Leviticus 1-3

WE THEN THAT ARE STRONG OUGHT TO BEAR

God, in His inscrutable and unerring wisdom, sent to a Christian home an afflicted baby boy. "Should he be placed in an institution?" was the question that presented itself. After prolonged prayer it was unanimously decided that little Tommy would stay at home and be the special object of tender care and love!

Wherever the family went, little Tommy was carried along. Intermittent drooling and manifestations of idiocy evoked no feeling of shame in that noble family. They held their heads high as their love and care for the weaker one deepened.

For years they exemplified the Scriptural admonition: "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves" (Romans 15:1).

In his thirteenth year, God took little Tommy home to be forever with the Lord.

It was the unanimous feeling of each member of that family that in lavishing love, kindness, understanding, affection and Christlike sympathy upon little Tommy, they became more loving, more understanding, more Christlike and kinder to each other.

In the church of Christ there are weaker ones, too. Not until we awaken in glory will we fully understand how indispensable to God's over-all, eternal purposes are these weaker ones.

Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary (1 Corinthians 12:22).

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

Scripture Reading—Leviticus 4-7

LOVE

To kiss the hands that smite,
To pray for them that persecute,
To hear the voice of blame,
Reap underserved shame,
And still be mute—
Is this not love?

To give for evil good,
To learn what sacrifice can teach,
To be the scoffer's sport,
Nor strive to make retort
To angry speech—
Is this not love?

To face the harsh world's harms,
To brave its bitterness for years,
To be an unthanked slave,
And gain at last a grave
Unwet by tears—
Is this not love?

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

Scripture Reading—Leviticus 8-11

THOUGH I HAVE

If I have the language perfectly and speak like a native, and have not His love for them, I am nothing. If I have diplomas and degrees and know all the up-to-date methods, and have not His touch of understanding love, I am nothing. If I am able to argue successfully against the religions of the people and make fools of them, and have not His wooing note, I am nothing. If I have all faith and great ideals and magnificent plans, and not His love that sweats and bleeds and weeps and prays and pleads, I am nothing. If I give my clothes and money to them, and have not His love for them, I am nothing.

If I surrender all prospects, leave home and friends, make the sacrifices of a missionary career, and turn sour and selfish amid the daily annoyances and slights of a missionary life, and have not the love that yields its rights, its leisures, its pet plans, I am nothing. Virtue has ceased to go out of me. If I can heal all manner of sickness and disease, but wound hearts and hurt feelings for want of His love that is kind, I am nothing. If I can write articles or publish books that win applause, but fail to transcribe the Word of the Cross into the language of His love, I am nothing.

Love this world through me, Lord,
This world of broken men,
Thou didst love through death, Lord,
Oh, love in me again!
Souls are in despair, Lord,
Oh, make me know and care;
When my life they see,
May they behold Thee,
Oh, love the world through me.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

Sunday School Lesson

For January 16

TEACHING ABOUT PRIORITIES

Lesson Text: Luke 12:13-21, 35-40
Memory Verse: Luke 12:40

I. INTRODUCTION

Let's pretend. Let's pretend that we have advanced to the finals in a sweepstakes program on television. We have won a grand prize, but we have a choice. We can choose either of two doors. Behind one door is the deed to an Alaskan oil well that pumps one thousand barrels a day, a Cadillac, a new home, a check for $500,000, and an all-expense-paid trip around the world. Behind the other door is a drunken derelict who was brought in from off the streets. Which prize is the most valuable?

Let's look at it another way. What if you were the person behind the second door? Then which would be the most valuable? Which door would God choose? God would choose the human life.

Life on this earth is preparation for life beyond the years we spend here. Everything we do here helps us get ready for life beyond. But sometimes in our readiness for the "other life" we do foolish things. It is possible that many of us are giving up what we should not lose (our souls) in order to gain what we cannot keep (possessions). When we do that, we have been really deceived.

Our lesson today begins by discussing one man who was deceived by the con game of selfishness and ends with a warning for us all to be ready for eternity.

In helping prepare His disciples for the Day of Judgment, Jesus warned them not to be overly concerned about the preservation of their physical bodies. Rather than fear those who could harm only the body, they were to fear (stand in awe of) Him who could both kill the body and cast the soul into Hell. It is not wise to major in minors (what is temporary) and neglect what is major (what is eternal, vv. 4, 5). With this caution concerning God's great power Jesus also coupled a reminder of God's limitless love for mankind (vv. 6, 7).

How are we to prepare ourselves for that final day? One way is to live a life in which we acknowledge Jesus before men. If we do that, He will acknowledge us before the angels of God. But if we disown Jesus before men, He will disown us before God (vv. 8-10). Jesus made it clear that the treatment God gives to us on that day will be determined by the priority we give to Him and His Son during our days on earth.

In this twelfth chapter of Luke, four of the most common priorities of men are discussed: (1) concern for our "image" before others; (2) concern for the physical body; (3) concern for material possessions; and (4) our use of time. Verses 1-7 deal with the first two, and the verses of our lesson text center around the latter two.

It is easy to become lax about working and watching for Jesus' Second Coming, because so much time has passed since He left and still He has not returned. Isn't it true that we often think God takes too long to keep His promises? Abraham and Sarah got impatient for Him to keep His promise about giving them a son, but in time Isaac was born. God promised the people of Israel a land of their own; and although their entrance into that land was delayed for about forty years because of their lack of faith, eventually they took possession of Canaan. Through various prophets God promised He would send the Messiah to deliver His people and rule over them, but centuries passed before that promise was fulfilled.

I can remember thinking when I was younger that I would never get old enough to have a driver's license, but I did. I can remember thinking that I would never get out of high school, but I did. I can remember thinking I would never get out of the service, but I did. And I thought the time would never come that I would have gray hair and wear bifocals, but it did! Sometimes I think the time will never come when I will die, but it will.

Jesus is coming again. God has promised it, and He always comes through on His promises. The time will come! Let's be ready for His coming by putting first in our lives those matters that God considers of greatest importance.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. If you can find out what is most important to a man, you will know much about the character of that man. The things we put first determine the kind of person we are.

B. The Scripture lesson for study today is divided into two sections. First, there is the parable of the rich man who Jesus calls a fool and a warning from Jesus concerning covetousness. Then there is a passage further in the chapter which deals with the Second Coming of Christ. Here two figures of speech are used—one comparing the Second Coming to the coming of a bridegroom, with all the servants watching for him, and one to the coming of a thief.

C. The rich man in the parable lives as an atheist. If someone had asked him, he probably would have said that he believed in God; but he lived as if God did not exist.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 4)

throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Liberalism saw the Bible as full of errors, the works of men, and something to be accepted as having no more authority than the works of Shakespeare or Henry Wadsworth Longfellow."

It is not my intention to tag anyone, because tags are dangerous things. A person may be liberal on one point and conservative on another. Therefore, tags are hardly ever wholly true. But we quoted the paragraph to inform our people as to the origin of the idea that the Bible is not historically and scientifically true. Of course, I know that there were skeptics before this, but it became popularized with the beginning of the liberal movement of the nineteenth century.

---

[1]John Warwick Montgomery, *God's Inerrant Word,* p. 23 (Bethany Fellowship, Minneapolis).

[2]Charles H. Stevens, *The Book of Exodus,* p. 42 (Moody Press, Chicago).

[3]L. Russ Bush and Tom J. Nettles, *Baptist and the Bible,* p. 44 (Moody Press, Chicago).

[4]*The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English Heritage),* p. XXIII (The Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden).

[5]*Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists (1955)* p. 7.

[6]John MacArthur, Jr., *Why Believe the Bible?* p. 10 (Regal Books, Glendale, Ca.).

[7]Ibid, p. 13.

TAKING THE BIBLE SERIOUSLY

To those who rebutted the article "Do Free Will Baptists Take the Bible Seriously?" I along with many Free Will Baptist members would like to express our appreciation for so adequately saying how we feel. The article was very confusing and left many of us concerned about the "Babes in Christ," who are so easily led by those who speak "with authority." It is hard enough with so many different theological interpretations that are around to decide where one stands, without someone within the realm of our beliefs disputing the teachings of the Free Will Baptists.

We are glad to have those among us that stand on the true Word of God. Thank you!

Edna McAbee
Member of Sandy Plain Church
Pink Hill, North Carolina

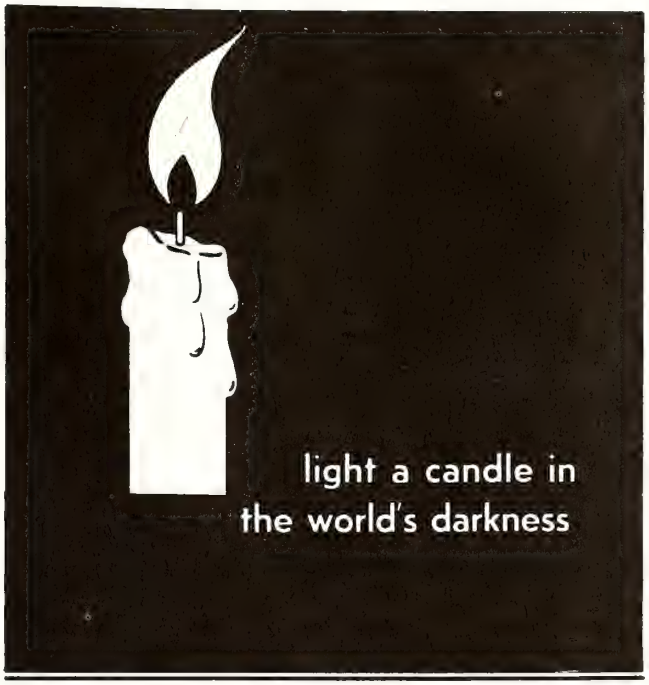
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

Missions and Evangelism, January 17—March 7, 1983, Mondays at 8-9:45 p.m., College Campus, (Henderson Building, Room 109). This course is designed to acquaint the student with the modern mission movement and some methods of evangelism. Teacher: Fred Baker, Free Will Baptist Missionary to the Philippines. (1 semester hour, College credit). Cost: $20.

Additional Information

Other courses will be announced as they are scheduled. For additional information on any of the above courses, please contact the Rev. Frank Harrison, Director of Church Relations, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365. Telephones (919) home 658-9363; office 658-2502.



THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

An invaluable resource for leaders in Christian education is *Christian Education Handbook: Resources for Church Leaders.* It is edited and compiled by Bruce Powers, associate professor of Christian Education, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina. Broadman Press published it in 1981. It is paperback and priced at $7.95.

This is a resource you will keep at your elbow at all times. It has very practical information on how to plan, evaluate, organize, coordinate, staff, motivate, train teachers, and excellent articles on administering your educational program. There are not many aspects of the educational ministry which this book does not touch on at one point or another. If you buy only one book this year on Christian education, get this one. It can be ordered through one of our bookstores.

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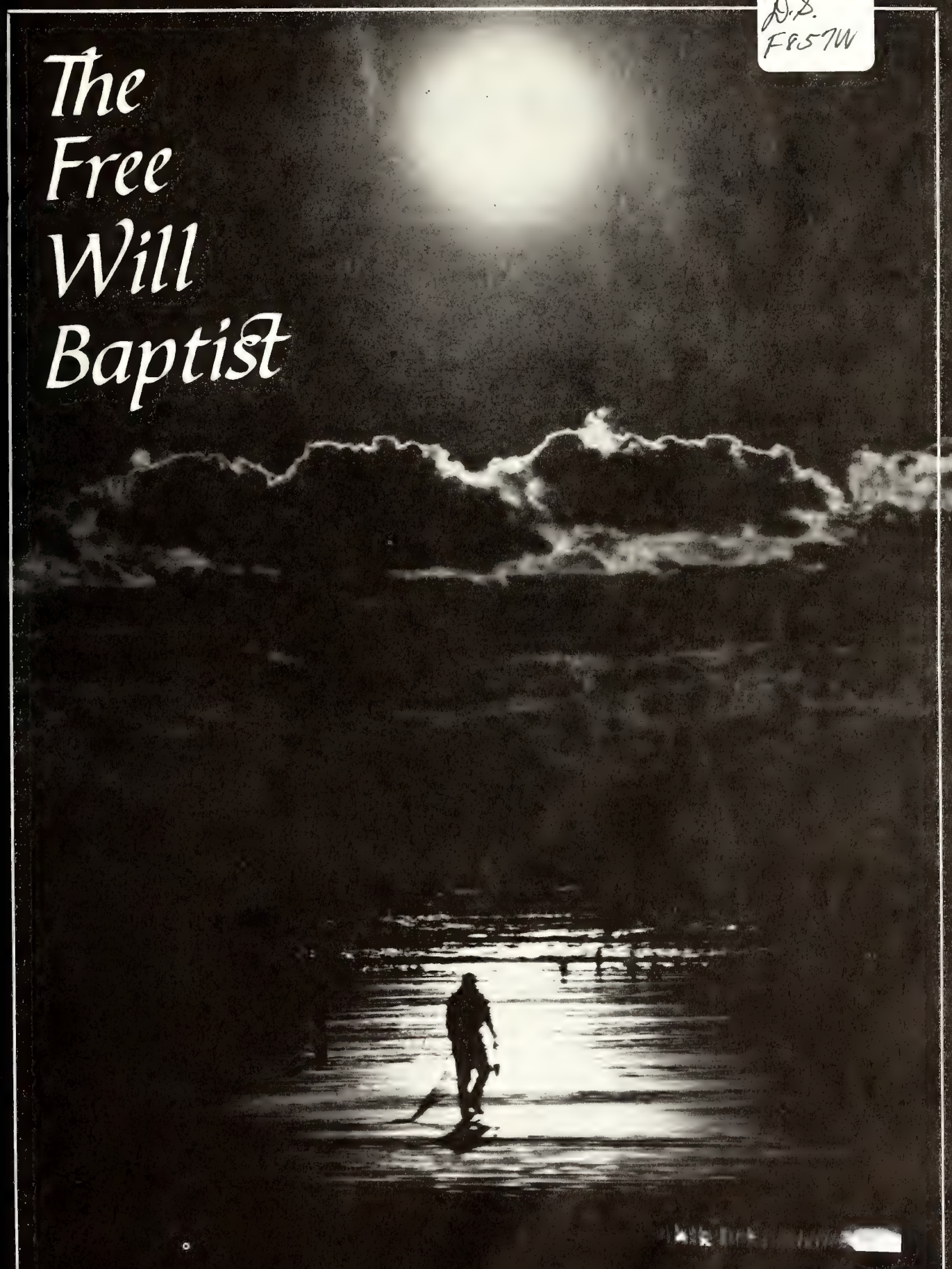
The Free Will Baptist



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

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Editorial

Thank you, Tony!

Since Free Will Baptists have experienced so many traumas during the last few months, and since problems sometimes give people an opportunity to attack personalities (often unreasonably and without justification), I have found it difficult to feel as though I matter. It's not that I want to be great in man's eyes, it's just that I would like to feel as though I have made a difference in the world in which I live; I would like to think that I have made life better for those who know me. While walking through Duke Hospital last week, these old anxieties were intensified.

I stood there and looked: the massive buildings towered and the majesty of their construction was heightened by the professionals—the leaders in the medical profession, individuals who are working to make life better—who inhabited them. My whole being ached; and I felt so small. (And everyone's attempt to improve my spirits failed.)

Three days later I was walking through another hospital, Craven County Hospital, this time. As I neared the coffee shop I recognized a familiar voice. The young man who was speaking turned and saw me; immediately he came to talk with me. With machine-gun rapidity, he brought me up to date on "everything" that had happened in the six-plus years since we had seen each other. I learned about old friends and their families; I was told about his upcoming birthday; he told me of his dreams and aspirations. Then he began to reminisce —Tony reminded me of some of the things our youth group had done. "You used to tell us stories about helping people and loving people and Jesus," he said. Then he continued, "And when we help people we show we love Jesus."

I don't remember much else that he said. But what stuck with me will never be forgotten. Something I had said years ago, something I had done, made a difference in his life. My anxieties disappeared, and in their place came a feeling of peace—I had made a difference; my life was not insignificant.

Now, Brothers and Sisters, this editorial was not intended to get you to write to me, to lift a fallen ego; I wrote it so that you, too, might remember that each of us makes a difference **and** that the little things we do are remembered—whether they be good or bad. Not a thing we do goes unnoticed; our words return to us; our true intents are recognized —somewhere, somehow, sometime. If we have problems with others, we should work them out in a Christlike manner—and that does not include telling everyone and his brother. When we see someone fall, we should help him up, not jump up and down on his shoulders. These actions definitely do not go unnoticed!

May we all strive to be more like Christ, for what we do does make a difference.

LIGHT AND DARKNESS

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

In him was life; and the life was the light of men (John 1:4). God's life in Christ made Him the light of the world. Those who sat in darkness saw a great light for He was The Light. He declared Himself to be so as He came into the world with God's life in Him. His light shined forth and exposed evil. The devils even cried out, "Why have you come to torment us before our time?" Before He ever spoke, they cried out. Darkness cannot stand light. When light shines into darkness, darkness always has to go. Turn on the lights and the darkness disappears. The light of Jesus exposes the sin in wicked people. The devil cannot exist in the light of Jesus. The devil has deceived mankind for all these many years because he is never seen. He is always hidden back in the shadows where he cannot be seen. It's the darkness that covers the evil deeds of men.

It was this life and light that man lost in his fall. When Adam sinned against God, he was separated from the presence of God. It was the light of God that gave man his knowledge. Light is understanding; light is the ability to see. Light on a subject gives you understanding. It is this light that gave Adam the understanding of God. It was this light that caused the animals to be friendly to him. The light was the very presence of God. Once that was gone, man had to build shelters against the storms and against the elements of this world. Once the presence of God is gone, man becomes a victim of his surroundings.

Life is restored when man is born again. Jesus said to the church, "You are the light of the world." He came into this world saying, "I am the light of the world," but then that term was transferred to the believers. We are the light of the world. He gave the church His life, and the church became the light of the world.

We have this treasure in earthen vessels. When that treasure, that life, that light came into men at Pentecost, men began to cry for mercy. At Pentecost light revealed sinful hearts and healed the sick. Light heals, and when light in the church begins to shine, the hurts of the world are healed. Peter said, "Such as I have, give I thee . . ." (Acts 3:6). We must have light. Faith reaches out. But the light of God's Divine Presence will heal anything.

Evil has to stay in darkness. It cannot stand the light to shine on it. Men love darkness because their deeds are evil. They know what they do is wrong so they stay in darkness. Evil will hide its deeds in the darkness and it cannot be recognized.

Evil can hide in a church. There is not much difference in the way people think. All will do about the same things under the same circumstances. The weapons of today are not spiritual, but carnal. You talk about them, they'll talk about you. You hit them, and they will hit you back. They'll laugh at the same things you laugh at. And if they can't get along together they will go to the same divorce court that the world goes to. The only way to keep evil out of the church is to shine the light so it will shine in every little place. Light is the only answer.

Evil thrives in darkness. ". . . darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people . . . ." (Isaiah 60:2). Wherever evil goes it is in darkness. If in your home, if in the church, or in the street it is in darkness. We hear people talk about being full of the Holy Ghost and they don't have enough light to make a reflection on sin. When people who are living in sin join the church, there is darkness in the church. When you work on a job with a church member that talks like everyone else on the job, drinks the same liquor, tells the same filthy jokes, the church they belong to is in darkness or else they couldn't stay there. They must stay where there is darkness. The reason that some leave the church is because the light shines on their sinful life. They are exposed for what they really are. When this happens, they can do one of two things; they must either get right with the Lord, or get out of the light. Evil just cannot stand the light.

What fellowship has light with darkness? None. Turn the light on in a room and the dark always leaves. If you have light on the inside, you can get rid of darkness. Keep the light shining in God's house and there will be no darkness there. Turn the light out and the darkness always comes in. When there is just a little light, the darkness is merely pushed back. Today people live in semi-darkness. There is just a little light flickering, just enough to sustain life, not enough to run the darkness away. When you turn the light up, it pushes the darkness back. The light in us is to shine out so that sinners can see the way they must take to

(Continued on Page 13)

The History of the Central Conference Woman's Auxiliary Work

Part Six

by Minnie Chandler

The Anna Phillips Loan Fund

On September 30, 1936, at Antioch, "The State Educational Fund known as the Anna Phillips Loan Fund was introduced and explained by Mrs. S. K. Jackson, State Director of Education."

Points of:

1. Children of the Orphanage will be given first chance to borrow from this fund for further education.
2. Any child with a good scholastic record.
3. Officers of the State Education Board will interview the child.
4. It will be a loan to each person for two years. After this limited time the student will be expected to return the amount borrowed with interest.

It was named in memory of Mrs. Anna Phillips who was connected with the old Ayden Seminary.

Report of the Resolution Committee:

Knowing the need of unity in our work, we recommend:

1. That we as a body endorse the Anna Phillips Loan Fund.
2. That the loan fund already in our treasury (become a part) of the Anna Phillips Loan Fund.
3. That we yet continue appropriating the one-fourth of our money received at each sitting of our convention to the Loan Fund.
4. That the appropriation committee be reminded of this before apportioning the money each time until we are educated to these resolutions.

Mrs. M. A. Woodard
Mrs. S. K. Jackson
Mrs. O. C. Merritt
Mrs. T. E. Skinner
Mrs. R. J. Wainright, *Resolution Committee*

On September 27, 1961, "A letter from Mrs. Katie Jackson was read by Mrs. Bill Taylor, in which she expressed her desire that the convention would support the Anna Phillips Loan Fund by sending a memorial gift to the Fund instead of flowers from the Convention." This suggestion was adopted by motion.

Christian Education:
A New School to Replace Eureka College?

There were tentative moves to establish a new school since Eureka College had burned and there was not a college in North Carolina at the time.

On Wednesday, September 28, 1938, at Free Union Church, "Mrs. Joe Barber read a letter from the Rev. (D. A.) Windham concerning a new school which may possibly be located in Greenville. A motion was made and carried that we would endorse the movement if found to be safe and sound by the committee of the State Convention."

In the March 27, 1940, session, "Mrs. S. (Sophia) B. Hardy made a few remarks concerning a school for North Carolina and stated that her society at Greenville was laying aside a small amount for that purpose."

The idea of a new school was finally dropped possibly because about this time the Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, was begun.

On Wednesday, March 29, 1939, at Black Jack Church, we have the first mention of the Bible College. ". . . Mrs. (M. A.) Woodard . . . stated that the Rev. J. R. Davidson of Bryan, Texas, asked that we pay 10¢ per capita to add to the building fund for the National school. As a challenge to the women she suggested that we use a little mite box and drop in a nickel or dime as often as we can and use this for Christian education."

On September 29, 1954, we have the first mention of *Mount Allen College* (three years after its inception). A special offering was taken on this date. However, the time came when the worship offering was divided equally between the Children's Home, and Mount Olive College, and then on March 29, 1967, divided equally between the Children's Home, Mount Olive College, and Missions. As has been mentioned before, the practice of a roll call and a special missions offering was adopted at the September 1966 convention so the offering once again is divided equally between the Children's Home and the College.

Officers of the Convention

On Wednesday, March 29, 1939, there was a change in officers. Up until this time the officers consisted of a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Now the slate of officers consisted of:

(Continued on Page 15)

Who do you think you are?

At a convention recently, a man walked up to a friend of mine, looked at his badge, and said, "Your name is familiar. What are you known for?"

When I heard the story, I decided it was a commentary on our times. My friend was not seen as someone who might be worth getting to know. His identity was connected to his notoriety, his image, his role.

More and more, Christians seem occupied with image. Obviously, corporations are. In the big ones, a gaggle of public relations experts constantly massage the image to make sure the company looks good. The objective is not necessarily that things *be* right, only that they *look* right.

There being no such thing as a corporate soul, that tactic is viewed merely as smart management. But for the Christian, image-building can be only a loser, for if we are not real, we are nothing. Literally nothing, for image is only illusion. "What you see is what you get" is not true for believers, because reality is mostly behind what we are willing to let others see.

"For me to be a saint means to be myself," Thomas Merton writes in *New Seeds of Contemplation.* "God leaves us free to be whatever we like. We can be ourselves, or not, as we please. We are at liberty to be real, or to be unreal. We may be true or false; the choice is ours . . . but we cannot make these choices with impunity. Causes have effects, and if we lie to ourselves and others, then we cannot expect to find truth and reality whenever we happen to want them."

Finding out who we are is sometimes not easy and almost never comfortable. It requires looking within at our uncertainty, our insecurity, our low self-esteem. That is always more complicated and painful than gazing only at the untroubled, placid surface.

So we change the arena. Instead of exploring the inner spirit, we phrase questions that focus on externals like "What do you do?" Inadequate as it is, activity then becomes the yardstick by which we measure worth.

The elders of a church, receiving a class of new members, asked the candidates to tell something about themselves. One man spoke of his career achievements, his club memberships, the honors bestowed upon him. The group smiled its approval. He had told about himself. Then it was the turn of a woman who had come to faith out of atheism and alcoholism. She shared something of her spiritual pilgrimage.

"I'm so grateful that my struggle has brought me to this point of healing," she concluded. "I've come so far to get here."

"But tell us about *you,*" one of the group insisted.

Eyes filling with tears of joy, she said, "That *is* me."

This reminds me of what Jesus told the Pharisees, "I know where I came from and where I am going" (John 8:14 TLB). Blessed, confident and serene is the person who has such a sure fix on his or her identity.

In the church, we seem to go out of our way to cloak or sublimate personhood. Church leaders refer to members as "giving units." Others report new believers as "baptisms." Evangelistic meetings result in card-signing "decisions for Christ." I'm not nearly as much concerned about what happened to the human race, a subject explored in a Christian film, as I am about what happened to persons! As for me, I want to be a flesh-and-blood human being, not a giving unit, a baptism, or even a decision for Christ.

If we ourselves are guilty of so diminishing the crown jewels of God's creation, how can we complain when the government turns each unique soul into an 11-digit computer number?

The reason so many retirees fall apart is that they have been conditioned to think of life as a job resume. Their identity is in what they have done, and when the job goes, the identity goes. It is even worse for one who loses a job. As *Time* magazine puts it, "If joblessness goes on for long, men and women of all ages, occupations and economic classes tend to suffer a sharp loss of self-esteem, a diminished sense of identity, a sense of estrangement."

Even eulogies major in what the departed person achieved. The larger the list, the greater the loss to the world. At one funeral, those present were invited to say something about the deceased. After a long, embarrassing pause, one man got up and said, "Clem could whistle *Yankee Doodle Dandy* better than anyone I know."

Clem wouldn't have been missed in a Marxist society where people have value only as economic producers, but I believe his passing was noted in Heaven. Jesus said, "Not one sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it." And sparrows can't even whistle.

The children and spouse of a person in the public eye carry their own burdens of identity. One of my daughters attended a Christian school where she regularly was introduced as "Stan Mooneyham's daughter." Pushing aside this stifling blanket of nonpersonhood, she always responded by saying, "My name is Gwen."

(Continued on Page 15)

OLD-FASHIONED DAY AT WHITE OAK CHURCH

White Oak Church in Bladenboro observed Old-Fashioned Day on Sunday, November 21. Special music was presented by the McPherson Quartet from Beaverdam Church. The guest speaker was the Rev. H. L. Mickle, a retired minister from Durham. The members of the congregation dressed in "old-fashioned" style, and after the morning service, everyone enjoyed a fellowship dinner in the new addition to the fellowship building. The Rev. Jack Lassiter is the pastor of the church.

Albemarle Meetings Announced

Sound Side Church near Columbia, will host the Albemarle Union Meeting, on January 29, 1983, beginning at 10 a.m. Mount Zion Church near Roper, will host the Albemarle League Convention that evening at 7:30. The scheduled programs are as follows:

UNION MEETING

OPENING SESSION

Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Joe Griffith

10:10—Welcome, the Rev. N. D. Wiggs

—Response, the Rev. Robert May

10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charles Overton

10:20—Roll Call of Ministers

—Recognition of Visiting Ministers

—Roll Call of Churches

10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises

—Announcements

—Prayer Time

BUSINESS SESSION

10:40—Report of Children's Home, via Literature

—Report of Mount Olive College, via Literature

—Report of Press, via Literature

—Report of Missions, via Literature

—Report of Cragmont, via Literature

—Report of Retirement Homes, via Literature

10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union Meeting for Information

—Report of Treasurer

—Other Business

—Announcements of Next Union Meeting

11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

MORNING WORSHIP

11:00—Hymn

11:20—Special Music, Host Church

11:25—Message, the Rev. N. D. Wiggs,

—Adjournment and Lunch

LEAGUE CONVENTION

7:30—Devotion, Mr. Mike Oliver

7:40—President's Message, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.

—Appointment of Digest Committee

—Offering

—Roll Call of Leagues

—Sword Drill

—Hymn

—Recognition of Ministers

—Announcements

—Special Music

—League Program

—Minutes of Last Convention

—Business of Digest Committee

—Report of Digest Committee

—Awarding of Banners and Picture

—Treasurer's Report

—Minutes Read and Approved

—Adjournment

Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

Central Conference Ministerial Fellowship Announced

The Central Conference Ministerial Fellowship will meet on Monday, January 24, 1983, in Greenville, at the Three Steers Restaurant, at 11 a.m. All ministers are encouraged to attend.

Second Union of Central Conference to Meet

The Second District Union Meeting of the Central Conference and Sunday School Convention will meet at Piney Grove Church near Greenville, on January 30, 1983. The time will be 3 p.m.

Ron Braxton is the moderator of the Union Meeting. Melvin Fussell is president of the Sunday School Convention.

(Continued on Page 15)

January Is Retirement Homes Month

If our Lord Jesus Christ tarries beyond our lifetime we will all need a place to spend our retirement years. Our parents are facing those years of rest and relaxation (retirement) now or they will in the very near future. Coupled with this is the ever-increasing inflation rate which is reducing our purchasing power. Think of it, my fellow Christians—will our parents, and we in later years, be able to retire with dignity?

The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists through its institution—The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes—is today with foresight in the process of preparing a place of retirement for its members and denominational workers.

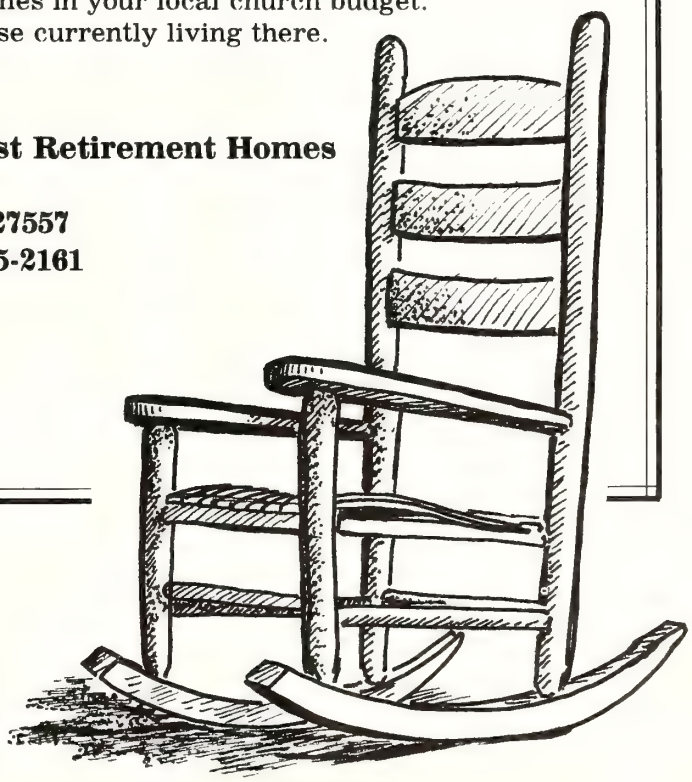
Social Security helps, but Social Security alone will not be enough! It is imperative that we begin planning today for our future retirement—that is, if we hope to retire in comfort. Every dollar Free Will Baptists invest in our denominational Retirement Homes will insure that each of us may have a comfortable retirement in a Christian environment.

The Retirement Homes Board is asking each Free Will Baptist during the fiscal year 1982-83 to contribute $5 in support of this ministry. Your dollars will be used for present operations as well as development to meet future needs. Your $5 investment will help provide the possibility of that comfortable, affordable retirement apartment for your parents in the **near** future and for **you** when you reach those later years.

What else can you do right now? Good question—for you can:

1. Pray for your Retirement Homes Board of Directors for guidance and leadership.
2. Pray for God's provisions for financial support.
3. Send your personal gifts.
4. Include your denominational Retirement Homes in your local church budget.
5. Visit the Retirement Homes grounds and those currently living there.

Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes
Box 250
Middlesex, NC 27557
Phone: (919) 235-2161



Sunday, January 23,
Is Retirement Homes Sunday.

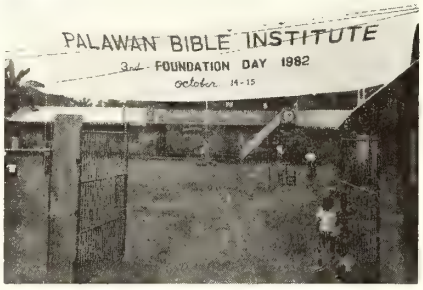
PALAWAN BIBLE INSTITUTE THIRD FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATED

by Charles Barnard

Flag raising and National Anthem

Palawan Bible Institute celebrated its Third Annual Foundation Day on October 14, 15, 1982. The planned activities began with a special chapel service on Thursday morning. Missionary Charles Barnard, Dean of P.B.I., brought the morning message. Deuteronomy 28:1-14 was the text chosen to lead us into the realization that P.B.I. began in obedience to God's commands and has progressed thus far by continued obedience to the same. Renewed commitment to obey His Word is in order if we are to continue to reap bountiful spiritual blessings. This was the theme of the message. If we hearken, observe, and do all His commandments He will surely bless. As Free Will Baptists, we of all people should understand the conditional nature of God's promises. May we ever endeavor to please Him!

Immediately following the service, students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends, and members of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines gathered together for the raising of the Philippine Flag and the singing of the Philippine National Anthem. We praise God for the opportunity to train young men and women for service to Him in this great land.



Volleyball Court, P.B.I. Campus

"Let the games begin!" was the call heard as the singing stopped and the tossing of the ball took place. And, begin they did! The morning and afternoon were filled with basketball, volleyball, table tennis, eating contest, Bible Quiz, sack race, running, Trip to Jerusalem, and other games. The delicious native luncheon served added to an exciting and refreshing day that will long be remembered.

But that wasn't all! At 7 p.m. the Rev. Pio dela Rosa presented a brief evangelistic message that touched many hearts. Following this we began our Talent Show Contest. Individuals and groups representing their local churches and P.B.I. participated. Included in this exciting event were several songs, drama, comedy, and other forms of Christian praise. What a fitting close to the first day of P.B.I.'s Foundation Day Celebration.

Friday morning found everyone at the basketball court of Antonio Bautista Air Force Base. Here two ladies' teams and four men's teams pitted their basketball wizardry against each other. This carried us into the early afternoon. In unprecedented manner P.B.I.'s teams took home the first place honors. Late afternoon volleyball play-offs again proved to belong to the home teams.

The closing Awards Ceremony capped off a most enjoyable and rewarding series of Foundation Day activities. As the final benediction was pronounced we knew that once again the hand of the Almighty God had made His Presence known to us.

To God be the glory forever and ever. Amen!

P.B.I. COMPLETES SECOND TRIMESTER

Palawan Bible Institute recently completed its second trimester of the 1982-83 academic year. The last day of class was November 19.

We feel that this was a very rewarding 11-week period. Classes went well. Teachers were able to fulfill all lessons as planned. The students expressed signs of real spiritual growth and maturity. Many of our expectations were realized.

P.B.I. is in the midst of its fourth year. This year promises to be the most fruitful, thus far. God is doing great things in the lives of all involved with this ministry.

As we look forward to the beginning of the third trimester on January 3 we are excited by

(Continued on Page 15)

RECEIPTS
December 1982

Albemarle Conference

Union Chapel	$ 25.24
Trinity	100.00
Hickory Chapel Woman's Auxiliary	37.00
Total	$ 162.24

Cape Fear Conference

Bethel	$ 100.00
Yelverton Grove	100.00
Riverside	100.00
Lee's Chapel Fellowship Class	47.66
Smithfield, First	75.00
Haymount Mission	66.17
Tee's Chapel Youth	85.00
Casey's Chapel	100.00
Total	$ 673.83

Central Conference

Piney Grove	$ 75.00
Friendship Sunday School	25.00
Edgewood Sunday School	56.00
Saratoga Sunday School	25.00
Walnut Creek	100.00
Greenville Service Woman's Auxiliary	10.00
Gum Swamp	200.00
Daniels Chapel	250.00
Dilda's Grove	44.52
Owens Chapel	100.00
Bethany	375.00
Otter's Creek	46.15
Total	$ 1,306.67

Eastern Conference

Pilgrims Rest	$ 10.00
Arapahoe	330.00
Beulaville	200.00
Wilmington	25.00
Third District Sunday School Convention	20.00
Hillsberry	15.00
Heath Memorial Bible Class	100.00
Holly Springs	500.00
Northeast	131.57
Oriental	10.00
Rock of Zion	200.00
Bridgeton	26.00
Total	$ 1,567.57

Pee Dee Conference

Beaverdam Sunday School	$ 270.16
Total	$ 270.16

Piedmont Conference

Gospel Outreach	$ 10.00
Total	$ 10.00

Western Conference

Milbournie	$ 137.50
Little Rock	1,400.00
Fellowship	25.00
St. Mary's	281.28
Sherron Acres	175.00
Spring Hill	300.00
Piney Grove	62.50
Fremont	200.00
Friendship	300.00
Stoney Creek	2,000.00
Rains Cross Roads Woman's Auxiliary	100.00
Marsh Swamp	45.25
Total	$ 5,026.53
Conferences Total	$ 9,017.00

Individual Gifts

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Haygood	$ 500.00
College and Career	20.00
State Youth Convention	3,132.37
Verena Johnson	200.00
Irene B. Gordon	10.00
Luther Bissette	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Skinner	20.00
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Beaman	10.00
Winston D. Wooten	200.00
Mr. and Mrs. John Williams	500.00
Asheville Showcase —refund	22.22
Gifts Total	$ 4,619.59
Total	$13,636.59
Cragmont Club	$ 1,485.00
Miscellaneous Income	69.80
Grand Total	$15,191.39

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries	$ 1,318.87
Utilities	1,353.55
Food	794.87
Maintenance Supplies	248.54
Office Supplies	202.42
Store Operation	1,364.83
Taxes	2.64
Insurance	139.64
Maintenance and Repairs	219.91
Gas	172.50
Mileage and Travel	100.00
Promotional	248.40
Miscellaneous	9,300.00
Total	$15,465.99

MISCELLANEOUS

Savings Certificate	$ 1,000.00
Savings Certificate	2,500.00
Savings Certificate	5,000.00
Savings Certificate	800.00
Total	$ 9,300.00

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

As a supplemental activity for the upcoming lesson on the Prodigal Son, try role playing. This is simply the acting out of the character roles in the story by one or more members of the class. You will need one person to be the father, another to be the prodigal, another to be the elder son, and a couple of people to be the wild friends, which is usually the favorite role.

Let me give you a few guidelines. Select the persons for the roles before class. For the first time you use this method, pick persons who you think would be comfortable doing it. If you have time, let them rehearse ahead of time. Make sure that you read the story and even discuss it beforehand. After this, do the role playing following the basic plot outlined in the passage. Make sure that each role player is acting out what he thinks each character would do and say, not what he or she would do or say. Next, discuss any new insights discovered as a result of the role playing. This is a great way to get into this familiar parable in a new and meaningful manner. Have fun!

(NEXT WEEK: CEATS?)

COMING EVENTS

January—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Retirement Homes Month

January 30—Mount Olive College Day in local churches

January 30—Second Union of Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention, Piney Grove Church, near Greenville, 3 p.m.

MINISTERIAL STUDENTS HELP BUILD COLLEGE HALL

Steve Starnes (left) and Cecil Blackmon, both ministerial students at Mount Olive College, are working on the wall footing forms for the handball courts at the College Hall site. They will continue to be employed part-time on the project during the spring semester.

Steve and his wife, Linda, are members of Holly Springs Church in Carteret County. They have two children: Mitchell, 8; and Stacey, 5.

Cecil and his wife, Hulda, are members of Smyrna Church in Johnston County. They have two children: Allen, 12; and Scott, 7.

Roger Heath, another ministerial student (not pictured), is also employed on the College Hall project. Roger and his wife, Linda, are members of Spring Branch Church in Greene County.

All three ministerial students have moved to Mount Olive in order to be closer to their classes at the College.

MOC TO SPONSOR FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP

Mount Olive College will sponsor a financial aid workshop on the campus, Saturday, January 22, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in Room 209 of the Henderson Building. The workshop is for students who plan to enter any college in the fall of 1983, and parents are encouraged to attend.

The theme for the workshop is "Planning for the Future." Information will be included on applying for all types of financial aid: federal and state grants, loans, and work-study.

Betty Cobb, director of financial aid at Mount Olive College, will be in charge of the workshop. Ms. Cobb is vice president of the North Carolina Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators and a member of the Southern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

NEXT MONTH IS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MONTH

February is Christian Education Month in the Free Will Baptist Church, and we, at the College, hope that each church will designate one Sunday next month as Mount Olive College Day. We will be glad to provide bulletins and other literature relating to Mount Olive College's programs of study, admissions, and financial aid. Speakers from the College may be contacted through the Rev. Frank Harrison, director of Church Relations; phone: 658-2502 (office) or 658-9363 (home).

FREE WILL BAPTISTS ON DEAN'S LIST AT MOC

Seventeen Free Will Baptist students affiliated with Original Free Will Baptist Churches were named to the Dean's List for the 1982 fall semester at Mount Olive College. To qualify for the list, a student must attend on a full-time basis, achieve a B+ average, and receive no grade below a "C."

Free Will Baptist students who qualified for the list are as follows: Lisa Rowe from Smyrna Church in Beaufort County, David Vesper from Sound View Church in Carteret County, Martha J. Fowler from Catalpa Church in Cumberland County, Patty Pickette from Lanier's Chapel in Duplin County, Lora Chesmore from Sandy Hill Church in Duplin County, Faye Reardon from Snow Hill Church in Duplin County, Angela Harmon from Hickory Chapel in Hertford County, Teresa Atkinson from Branch Chapel in Johnston County, James Montgomery from Johnston Union Church in Johnston County, Tammy Marshburn from Mt. Zion Church in Onslow County, Carolyn Williamson from the First Church of Goldsboro, Janet Beasley from Indian Springs Church in Wayne County, Meg Jernigan, Robin Johnson, and Kathy Smith, all from Northeast Church in Wayne County, Constance Williams from Union Grove Church in Wayne County, and Jeaneen Bartlett from Daniels Chapel in Wilson County.

Sherry Mills, a member of Pleasant Acres Church in Craven County (National Free Will Baptist), was also named to the Dean's List.

EXECUTING YOUR WILL

A will is not a valid legal document when it is finalized by your attorney. Only you can validate your plan. To complete—or execute—your will and put it in proper legal form, follow the step-by-step procedure outlined below:

1. Verify the accuracy of your will.

Carefully examine the instrument drafted by your attorney to see that it is consistent with your instructions and in accordance with your wishes.

2. Date and sign your will.

Authenticate your estate plan by dating and signing your will in the spaces provided by the attorney (at the end of the document). Also, affix your signature—or place your initials—on the bottom of every other sheet that is part of your will. This procedure will verify that the instrument was complete and in its final form at the time of execution.

3. Have your will witnessed.

Next, have the persons who witnessed you signing your will affix their signatures at the appropriate places, as well as initialing all the other sheets. Your witnesses must be of legal age and should not be anyone who is mentioned as a primary or contingent beneficiary in your will. (They do not need to read the document . . . only see you sign your name.)

4. Notarize the signatures.

And last, have a notary public attest to the validity of both your signature and the signatures of your witnesses. While this final step is still optional in most states, it may eliminate the potential for your witnesses being called to court at some future date to establish the authenticity of your will.

SAFEGUARDING YOUR WILL

Your executed will is, of course, a valuable document that should be kept in a safe place where it will be readily available when it is needed.

If a will is kept at home, there is always the danger that something might happen to it. It could be accidentally burned or otherwise destroyed, for example, or simply thrown away with other papers by mistake.

In order to guard against such possibilities, and as a service to clients, many attorneys will keep the original copy of a will and provide a carbon copy for the testator/testatrix. The primary benefit of this approach is that you have the necessary information for reference purposes—such as the periodic review of your estate plan—while the actual will is maintained in a secure setting.

Another option is to place your will in a safe deposit box at a local bank. Before you rent a safe deposit box, however, you may want to consult your attorney to determine what kind of restrictions your state will impose on access to the contents of your safe deposit box after death.

Regardless of what you do with your will, you should prepare a memorandum indicating where it can be found. Copies of such information should be in the hands of both your executor and your alternate executor, or placed in a location where it will not be overlooked in case of an emergency.

Adapted from *You and Your Will* by Carl E. Keefer and Gerald J. Brinser.

A NEW YEAR FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH

It is time again to begin preparing for our Spring Eastern District Youth Convention. The Convention will meet Saturday, March 19, 1983, at Christian Chapel Church. Our special guests for the day will be the New Creations from Mount Olive College.

Categories for competition for 1983 will be arts and crafts, public speaking, lesson preparation, Christian writing, and the Bible bowl quiz. Guidelines and information concerning these events have been written in the *1983 YFA and AFC Program Book for Youth Leaders.*

Youth leaders, it is up to you to encourage and inform your youth. Participating in one or more of these events will help your youth to develop their God-given talents and abilities.

If you have any questions or you are interested in further information, please let me know by writing Deborah H. King, Eastern District Youth Chairman, 1316 Manchester Road, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; or calling 523-1055.

Deborah H. King

RETIREMENT HOMES

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
December, 1982
Total $1,630.75

ALBEMARLE	
Saint Paul	$ 15.00
Total	$ 15.00
CAPE FEAR	
Bethel	$100.00
Smithfield, First	75.00
Total	$175.00
CENTRAL	
Bethany	$ 25.00
Daniels Chapel	50.00
Elm Grove	150.00
Reedy Branch	32.25
Tarboro, First	125.00
Total	$382.25

(Continued on Page 15)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

Scripture Reading—Leviticus 12-14

GOD SO LOVED

A young woman went to the ticket office in an English railway station. She had lived only for the sinful pleasures of life. She was weary of her empty, sinful life. Above the ticket window were printed these words: "God So Loved!" Said she to the ticket agent, "I never heard that before. Where did those words come from?" "They are in the Bible, Miss," said the agent. "Where can I get a Bible?" she asked. "Across the street at the bookstore."

The young woman bought a Bible and returned to the station in time to take her train. She asked a passenger to find the place in her Bible where it said, "God so loved." She was shown John 3:16. She read it over and over again!

Reaching her home, the young woman rushed in. She showed the verse to the man with whom she lived. "Isn't this wonderful!" she exclaimed as she showed him the verse. "I've known that verse was in the Bible for a long time. What's wonderful about it?" asked the one who, like herself, had lived a sinful life.

"Well, if God loves me like that, I am going to forsake my sinful life, and love and serve Him with all my heart!" she said.

She became a joyous Christian. She won the man to the Saviour. They were united in Christian marriage, and their home in London became a center of a rich influence for Jesus Christ!

I see God's love in simple things,
Enjoyed by common folk and kings;
I see it in the trees and flowers,
In sunlight and the summer showers,
In those who give me loving care,
And those who will my troubles share.

MONDAY, JANUARY 24

Scripture Reading—Leviticus 15-19

GOD HATES OUR BAD WAYS

Little Gloria had a tantrum. She screamed and jerked off her bedding and threw it on the floor. When her anger subsided, she felt very bad about the way she had acted. She went into her mother's room and sat beside her. Both sat silently for a moment. Then Gloria leaned her head on her mother's shoulder and asked, "Mommy, does God love me after I acted so bad?" "Yes, Gloria, God loves you very much, even now. But always remember that God does not like the bad things we do!"

O, Holy Blessed Trinity,
Enter my heart and set me free
From sin and all base things impure,
That I too might this life endure;
And give me grace that folk may see
In me Thy perfect charity.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25

Scripture Reading—Leviticus 20-23

TOO FAR DOWN!

The captain of a ship crossing the Atlantic said to a minister aboard, "We have just crossed over the place where the *Titanic,* the alleged unsinkable ship, went down!" Later the minister said, "I thought of all the wreckage beyond the power of man to recover and redeem. I thought of the great bed of the deep sea, with its treasures that are too far down for man to reach and restore. Too far down! And then I thought of all the human wreckage engulfed and sunk in the depths of nameless sin."

Too far down! For what? Not too far down for the love of God!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

Scripture Reading—Leviticus 24-27

THE UNFAILING MOTIVE

A young lady was deeply stirred by a missionary address. She felt that the Lord was calling her to work among children in the foreign field. She could hardly wait until she got to the mission field, learn the language, and begin her work. On her first trip into the interior, she traveled by ox cart. About an hour before reaching her destination it began to rain. "I can go no further. The mud is too deep," said the driver. She was horrified! How could she spend the night out in the rain on the road? All of her baggage would be ruined. She pleaded, but the driver paid no attention. All her love for these dear people evaporated! She began to think that they were horrid, stubborn creatures. Finally, the man said that if she would give him five dollars more, he thought the ox could pull the cart to town. She had to pay it, but from then on her rosy vision of the mission field and its glamor grew very dim. Later she went to a village to try to reach the children whom she loved, and they all ran from her, calling her a "foreign devil"! She realized at last that she had come to the mission field because of her own natural pity and love for people. Then she knew that mere human

love and pity will not stand the tests of the realities of life. If she had gone to the mission field because Christ loved the lost, not because she loved them, the situation would have been different. Even though the driver had left her in the mud, Christ's love for his soul would not be altered. He was unlovely because he did not yet know Christ!

I know my friends who are so kind,
Are prompted by a Divine mind,
And I give thanks for them each night,
When velvet darkness hides the light;
I see it in the mountain peaks,
And hear it when the small child speaks.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

Scripture Reading—Numbers 1-4

CAN'T GET IN UNLESS IT CAN GET OUT

A minister was discussing electricity with an electrician. "Is it true," asked the minister, "that electricity cannot get into you unless it can get out of you?" "That's absolutely right," answered the electrician. "Let me illustrate. When I worked in the coal mines in Pennsylvania, my brother operated one of the coal cars. I was standing on the rear of the car, singing in a carefree manner. Coming to a point where the tracks divided, my head got caught in the overhead 'frog.' There I dangled for a moment, my feet just clearing the ground! That explains my being here today. The high voltage current couldn't get into me because it couldn't get out of me!"

God's love, like electricity, can't get into us unless it can get out of us and share itself with others.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

Scripture Reading—Numbers 5-7

PROFIT AND LOSS

I counted dollars while God counted crosses,
I counted gains while He counted losses,
I counted my worth by the things gained in store
But He sized me up by the scars that I bore.
I coveted honors and sought for degrees,
He wept as He counted the hours on my knees;
I never knew until one day by the grave
How vain are the things that we spend life to save;
I did not yet know until my loved one went above
That richest is he who is rich in God's love.

In St. Paul's Cathedral, London, is a life-size, marble statue of Christ writhing in anguish on the Cross. The statue is subscribed: "This is how God loved the world!"

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

Scripture Reading—Numbers 8-13

THOU LOVEST ME

Grant me, O Lord, a heart content
To face each trial as it is sent.
That I may see in all Thy ways
A love that governs all my days.

Save me from doubt and dark despair.
Teach me to trust Thy tender care.
The distant scene I would not see,
Suffice to know Thou lovest me.

Thy love so vast, so full, so free,
That reaches down to even me,
In this assurance I am blest
No matter what may be the test.

I cannot drift beyond Thy care,
My every burden Thou wilt share.
Grant me this rest of faith, dear Lord,
According to Thy precious Word.

Open mine eyes that I might see
Each promise written there for me;
When Thou dost speak, attune my ear
That I might hear Thy accents clear.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 3)

reach Heaven. The sinner needs something to help him. But on the way he stumbles over all the hypocrites, the gimmicks of religion, drinking church members, trying to find his way to that flickering light. Then he falls into half a dozen ditches of religion and finally gives up.

The light of God's life in us will give light to a world that is lost and to a church that is groping in darkness. The sinner can sit in a church and feel right at home, when the church is slipping into darkness. Crowds may gather and call it a church, but if there is no life, it's in darkness. Wickedness loves darkness, that means that it hates light. We are either in darkness or in the light. You cannot be in both at the same time. Your life is at stake. What a powerful thing light is. It is energy. Light will always push darkness back. Light alone convicts men of their sin. No sinner will ever be convicted until he is exposed. When you can walk into God's house and feel His presence so real, the unsaved people will always be uncomfortable.

For January 23

TEACHING ABOUT LOSTNESS

Lesson Text: Luke 15:11-24
Memory Verse: Luke 15:24

I. INTRODUCTION

In the midst of the bitter Civil War, someone asked Abraham Lincoln how he intended to treat the Confederates after the war was over and they returned to the Union. Lincoln replied, "I will treat them as if they had never been away."

God's attitude toward us is similar when He reconciles us to Himself through Jesus Christ. He treats us as if we were never separated. He treats us as if we had never sinned.

No parable of Jesus makes this truth plainer than the one in our lesson today. This parable has been given many different titles—the prodigal son, the elder brother, the loving father, and the waiting father. Regardless of how we entitle it, the parable teaches us that God cares about lost people—and we should also.

It is a mistake to read this parable without reading Verses 1-10 and 25-32 in this chapter.

Jesus told this parable to answer criticism that He was receiving from the Pharisees and scribes. They were accusing Him for receiving sinners and eating with them (Luke 15:2). How could Jesus justify His actions that were so nontraditional? He told three parables in reply. All three have two things in common; something was lost, and something was found.

In the first parable, a sheep was lost, and the owner left his ninety-nine sheep that were safe and searched in the wilderness until he found the one that was lost. When he found it, he told his friends and neighbors his good news, and they rejoiced with him.

In the second parable, a woman lost one silver coin, a drachma. The drachma was a Greek coin, which was equal to one day's pay for a soldier or day laborer. That would be like losing a fifty-dollar bill or more today. The woman searched diligently for the money. Perhaps she wanted to find it before her husband got home. When she did find it, her friends celebrated with her.

But in the third parable, a *person* was lost, and not everyone was happy when he was found. The elder brother had a tantrum when his younger brother returned home. The elder brother represented the attitude of the Pharisees and scribes, who were complaining because Jesus greeted the sinners so warmly.

In these three parables of grace in this chapter, our Lord not only set forth the compassionate care and concern and love of God for the lost, but also skillfully rebuked the attitude of the Pharisees.

This is an easy parable to read and understand, but it is tough to apply it to our daily lives, especially if we are wearing the shoes of the elder brother.

This parable of Jesus did not end on a happy note. The elder son who had remained "faithfully" at home would not join in the celebration for the return and reinstatement of his younger brother. Evidently he had stayed at home more but enjoyed it less.

Do we act like the elder brother and sulk when a newcomer seems to get more attention than we have received in our many years of faithful service and attendance at church? Are we really full of joy when a lost person comes to himself and requests baptism on Sunday morning, if that action will make us late getting home or to our favorite restaurant? Is there a celebrative atmosphere when the new Christian enters the auditorium after the baptism, or is Heaven the only place where rejoicing takes place when a lost one comes home?

The words of the father to the elder son are also the words from God to us: "Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found." In other words, don't be arrogant. —*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. The foolishness of the prodigal son is shown in what he wasted. He wasted the material things which he inherited, the talents that God had given him, and some precious years of his life. The inevitable consequence of this type of living was want. "A willful waste brings a woeful want!"

B. The story of the father going out to meet the son shows the willingness of God the Father to receive sinful men when they come home. The father did not go looking for the lost son, but he waited patiently at home for his coming.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A gentleman after attending church, said: "Here is gratitude for you; after I and my family have been so nice to this preacher, he gets into the pulpit and tells us we are sinners if we do not repent. That's all right for people in jail, but to say this to a respectable audience is the most extraordinary conduct I ever heard of!" What was wrong with this gentleman?—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

(Continued from Page 5)

But often we impose our own masks. Afraid that people may not like us for ourselves, we cover our identity with some title or relationship. So our real self goes through life hidden, fearful, sweating behind the mask. It waits there, cringing in confusion, fear and aloneness, crying for discovery. But that self can't emerge until it is in a place of love, security and acceptance.

To be emotionally whole, each of us must sooner or later seek such a place. Much healing would happen if churches and small groups would allow themselves to *be* such a place.

For me, I have decided not to invent myself over again to fit the designs of others. I am me, and whatever I do for the rest of my life, it will be not in order to have an identity, but as a result of allowing my real self to emerge.

It's scary—but so, so satisfying.

—Stan Mooneyham

Used by permission of *World Vision* (September, 1982)

ATTENTION WA

Now is the time for you to collect your per capita dues, if you have not already done so. These dues should be collected during the first months of the year, in time to be sent to your district treasurer before, or in time for your district convention. The dues are $ .40 per member per year.

Send these dues to your district treasurer; she will keep $ .20 and send $ .20 to your state treasurer. It is necessary that you cooperate in this as these dues provide a part of the funds for the operational expenses of your convention. Thank you for your past cooperation; we know that we can continue to count on you.

Your State Treasurer,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser

NOTICE

The Cape Fear Conference Ordaining Council will meet at Smithfield Bible and Bookstore Conference Room at 10 a.m., Monday, January 24, 1983. Anyone having business with the council needs to get in contact with the Rev. Davie Brinson, secretary, so a time can be scheduled for you. All correspondence should be addressed to Cape Fear Ordaining Council, Attention: Davie Brinson, Secretary, Route 1, Box 321, Smithfield, North Carolina 27577.

Davie Brinson, *Secretary*
Cape Fear Ordaining Council

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 6)

Fifth Union of Eastern Conference to Meet

The Fifth Union of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will meet on January 29, 1983, at 9:30 a.m. All Union churches are invited to attend this meeting at Bethel Church, Whortonsville, Pamlico County.

President Raper to Speak

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker at Free Union Church, Beaufort County, on Sunday, February 6, at 11 a.m.

At 10 a.m. Dr. Raper will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes. He will conclude with comments pertaining to the college.

Dinner in the fellowship hall will be served in his honor following the 11 a.m. worship service. Everyone is welcome.

Western District Youth Rally Announced

There will be a Western District Youth Rally on Saturday, January 22, 1983, at the First Church of Wilson, at 7:30 p.m.

RETIREMENT HOMES

(Continued from Page 11)

EASTERN	
Arapahoe	$150.00
Bridgeton	26.00
Dublin Grove	15.00
Holly Springs	500.00
Oriental	5.00
Welcome Home	50.00
Total	$746.00
WESTERN	
Piney Grove	$ 62.50
St. Mary's	100.00
Sherron Acres	25.00
Spring Hill	125.00
Total	$312.50

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 8)

the possibilities before us. Twenty-five young men and women will once again join together in studying God's Word and in the everyday rigors of student life. Three dedicated teachers will again pore over lesson plans and the Word in search of the key that will open their students' understanding. Administrative decisions will again be made daily. All of this will take place under the guidance and influence of the Spirit of the Lord.

Please continue to pray for and support us as God's will is "committed to faithful young men and women, who shall be able to teach others also."

Charles Barnard

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

(Continued from Page 4)

President—Mrs. Frank Shirley

First Vice President—Miss Elizabeth Warren (Enlistment)

Second Vice President—Mrs. Joe Barber (Youth)

Third Vice President—Mrs. N. A. Clark (Missions)

Fourth Vice President—Mrs. S. T. Farrish (Stewardship, Study Course)

Fifth Vice President—Mrs. Paul Thigpen (Children's Home and Benevolence)

Secretary—Mrs. Carl Barrow

Treasurer—Mrs. Brantley Speight

Field Worker—Mrs. J. P. Barrow

Mrs. Katie Jackson
Mrs. M. A. Woodard
Mrs. Joe Barber,
Nominating Committee

Hidden Treasure

The 1983 youth program books have as their theme the Bible. Each number in the "Hidden Treasure" series surveys the Scriptures and does so in such a way that the entire Bible is covered by the end of the year.

The youth materials are available at the branch bookstores – Smithfield, Wilson, New Bern, Kinston, and Whiteville – or from the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Ayden store. The youth materials sell for $1.75 each, while the leaders' guide is $2.50.

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Volume 98 Number 4

January 26, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

Edited and published forty-eight times a year by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158. Second-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina (USPS 209-440).

All materials to be placed in any issue must be in the hands of the editor seven days prior to the publication date of that issue.

The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.84; two years, $16.12; four years, $31.20 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

Fred A. Rivenbark, President; Dewey C. Boling, Vice President; Robert May, Secretary; C. Felton Godwin, Assistant Secretary; James B. Hardee; Walter Sutton; Clarissa May; David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

Editorial

A Preface to "Every Coin . . ."

Could you imagine how much easier life would be if at some magic age we were given a script by which to live? There would be no room for error; we would not have to second-guess others; and, we would always know exactly what was expected of us. Most of the time now we find that no two people have the same set of rules for the game of life—especially in those scenes where we play the major role. As it is, we are like amateur carpenters building a house. First we do it, then we learn how.

Often, though, we are tempted to feel as though we have learned how; we feel as though we have arrived. The fact is we do learn some, but mainly we gain experience; and experience is not identical to knowledge. Experience shows us what mistakes we have made in the past, but it does not tell us which ones we are going to make in the future. We can learn from experience, but much time and energy is often spent in just recovering from it. You see, life has a way of giving the test first, then presenting the lesson.

The problem with experience is that few of us are born with it. It only comes with age—and that's when it usually does us the least good. After experience has been acquired, we have an overwhelming desire to share our newly found "wisdom" with others, most of whom had rather learn it themselves. Teenagers, in particular, conclude that experience is a bad teacher and a worse preacher. And statements that begin with "When I was your age . . ." or "When I did thus and such . . ." are as welcome as water to a drowning man. Usually those who are truly wise follow a "14K golden rule": *Rather than speak from experience, from experience don't speak.*

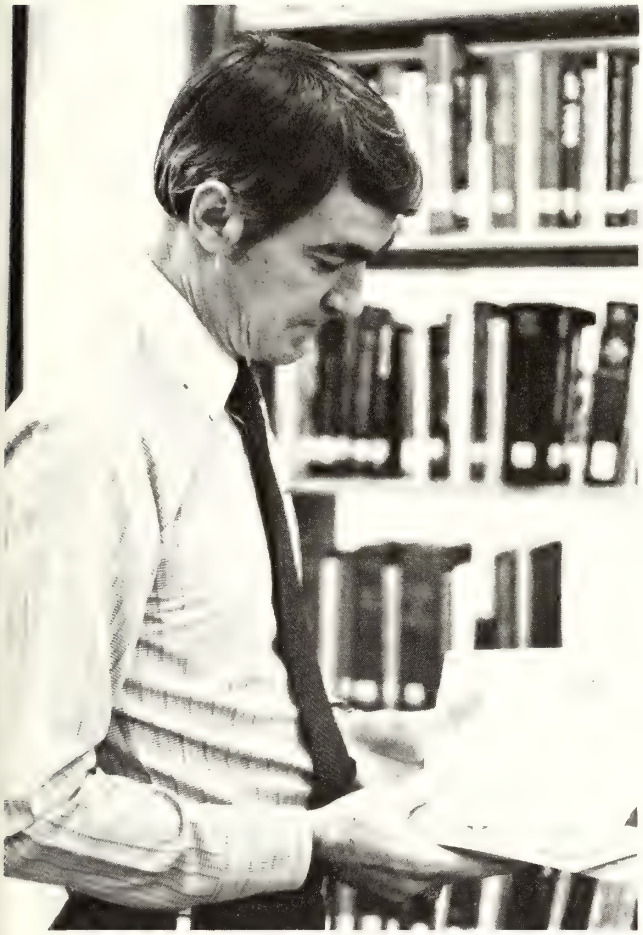
Of course we all do accumulate a great deal of memorabilia as a result of living; and I must admit it is a shame to let it all go to waste. At times I feel that I have progressed from a state of "confident ignorance" to "thoughtful uncertainty"—but that, too, is a sign of much growth. In life, we all acquire some clues as to how much is too much; and it does not take us long to realize that the answers to life's questions are not found in the back of the book. It does us all good, at times, to pause for a breath of fresh air, to take a break from the action and become "philosophers." (But that, too, may prove hazardous to someone else's sanity!)

Thoreau very profoundly wrote: *My life is not an apology. It is a life.* How exhilarating it is to realize that we are all important, every life has meaning—not just the people that the media has exalted and made famous (or saints). A man attending a seminar for depressives said, "It's possible that my whole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others." Now this gentleman did not feel as though he mattered much; he was a victim of low self-esteem; but he did not feel hopeless.

Maybe we would all do well to get us some poster paper and several markers and make us signs which bear J. B. Phillips' paraphrase of Matthew 5:5—*Happy are those who accept life and their own limitations. They will find more in life than anybody.* This editorial will be continued next week

(Continued on Page 14)

A LIBRARY RESOURCE FOR MINISTERS AND CHRISTIAN WORKERS



Gary Barefoot, librarian at Mount Olive College, examines one of the books purchased for Moye Library through the Lloyd Vernon Endowment Fund. Barefoot is a member of Robert's Grove Church.

The Lloyd Vernon Collection at Mount Olive College

During his lifetime, a favorite saying of the Rev. Lloyd Vernon was "A call to preach is a call to prepare." Today a $10,000 endowment in Vernon's name provides income to purchase approximately 50 books per year for the library of Mount Olive College.

The books are on topics of interest to pastors or others in church-related vocations. Sunday school teachers and church officers will also find that many of the books are applicable to their work.

Anyone who wishes to borrow one of the books listed below can check it out at the College library or request it by title and author through the mail. However, if a visit to the campus is impractical, the most convenient way to check out a selection is to request it through the interlibrary loan system of one's nearest public library. The book can then be picked up and returned there.

Gary Barefoot, librarian, welcomes suggestions for additional purchases. He also suggests that anyone who enjoys one of the books might write a review and submit it to *The Free Will Baptist* for publication.

The Rev. Lloyd Vernon was a leading advocate for ministerial education in the beginning of Mount Olive College, and he himself served as the first president from 1952-54. He lived from 1897-1980 and was an ordained Free Will Baptist minister for 69 years.

The Lloyd Vernon Library Collection at Mount Olive College Acquisitions through October, 1982

BOOKS

Are, Thomas. *Faithsong: A New Look at the Ministry of Music.* Westminster, 1981.

Barth, Karl. *Ethics.* Seabury, 1981.

Barth, Karl. *Evangelical Theology: An Introduction.* Eerdmans, 1979.

Bisagno, John. *How to Build an Evangelistic Church.* Broadman, 1971.

Brueggemann, Walter. *The Bible Makes Sense.* J. Knox, 1977.

Brunner, Emil. *The Scandal of Christianity.* J. Knox, 1965.

Campbell, Alastair. *Rediscovering Pastoral Care.* Westminster, 1981.

Campbell, Thomas et. al. *The Gift of Administration.* Westminster, 1981.

Clements, Ronald. *O. T. Theology: A Fresh Approach.* J. Knox, 1980.

Clements, Ronald. *One Hundred Years of Old Testament Interpretation.* Westminster, 1976.

Efird, James. *These Things Are Written: An Introduction to the Religious Ideas of the Bible.* J. Knox, 1978.

Falwell, Jerry et. al. *The Fundamentalist Phenomenon: The Resurgence of Conservative Christianity.* Galilee: Doubleday, 1981.

Faulkner, Brooks. *Burnout in Ministry.* Broadman, 1981.

Ferm, Deane W. *Contemporary American Theologies: A Critical Survey.* Seabury, 1981.

Gaustad, Edwin S. *A Religious History of America.* Harper & Row, 1966.

Hadden, Jeffrey. *Prime Time Preachers: The Rising Power of Televangelism.* Addison-Wesley, 1981.

Harvey, Van Austin. *The Historian and the Believer.* Macmillan, 1981.

(Turn the Page)

The Library of
Mount Olive College

GIFT OF

THE LLOYD VERNON LIBRARY ENDOWMENT

In Memory of

LLOYD VERNON

1894-1980

First President of Mount Olive College

(1952-1954)

Books purchased through the Lloyd Vernon Endowment Fund are labeled as above. The endowment was established in August of 1981.

Hulme, William. *Pastoral Care and Counseling.* Augsburg, 1981.
Hutton, Samuel. *Minister's Service Manual.* Baker, 1958.
Hutton, Samuel. *Minister's Funeral Manual.* Baker, 1968.
Hutton, Samuel. *Minister's Marriage Manual.* Baker, 1968.
Jeremias, Joachim. *New Testament Theology, the Proclamation of Jesus.* Scribner, 1971.
Kaiser, Otto et. al. *Exegetical Method: A Student's Handbook.* Seabury, 1981.
Kasemann, Ernst. *Perspectives on Paul.* Fortress, 1978.
Kelsey, Morton. *Caring.* Paulist, 1981.
Knight, Walter. *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations.* Eerdmans, 1981.
Kreeft, Peter. *Heaven: The Heart's Deepest Longing.* Harper, 1980.
Limburg, James. *The Prophets and the Powerless.* J. Knox, 1976.
Machen, J. Gresham. *The Virgin Birth of Christ.* Baker, 1967.
McGavran, Donald. *Understanding Church Growth.* rev. ed. Eerdmans, 1980.
Marty, Martin E. *The Public Church: Mainline-Evangelical-Catholic.* Crossroads, 1981.
Moltmann, Jurgen. *The Crucified God.* Harper & Row, 1974.
Moltmann, Jurgen. *Experiences of God.* Fortress, 1980.
Nouwen, Henry J. M. *The Living Reminder: Service and Prayer in Memory of Jesus Christ.* Seabury, 1981.
Rusberldt, Richard et. al. *Key Steps in Local Church Planning.* Judson, 1980.
Smith, Donald. *Congregations Alive.* Westminster, 1981.
Soulen, Richard N. *Handbook of Biblical Criticism.* J. Knox, 1981.
Shelp, Earl et. al. *A Biblical Basis for Ministry.* Westminster, 1981.
Via, Don Otto. *The Parables: Their Literary and Existential Dimension.* Fortress, 1974.
White, R. E. O. *Biblical Ethics.* J. Knox, 1980.

MAGAZINES

Christian Ministry. (bi-monthly)
Church Administration: A Journal for Effectiveness in Ministry. (monthly)
Church Growth: America. (bi-monthly)

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

CEATS stands for "Christian Education Assistance Teams." Primarily, it would be a team of persons who have had extensive training and experience in Christian education. It **could** be appointed by and under the direction of the Sunday School Convention. The purpose of CEATS, in a general sense, would be to make an assessment of our educational needs, make recommendations to help meet those needs, to plan and conduct an annual Christian education conference at Cragmont or Camp Vandemere for leadership renewal and growth, and to work closely with the Press to produce some literature on Christian education and teaching which would be helpful for Christian education leaders.

The main purpose of this team would be to act as resource persons for local churches. Pastors, Sunday school superintendents, and teachers could call upon them if they should need some assistance. The team could help solve any administrative problems, make suggestions for improving the educational program of the church, conduct teacher training classes and seminars, and many other things. A goal would be to recruit and train a CEAT for each conference, so that the local churches in each conference could get more individual attention.

I have shared this idea with you only to stimulate your thinking. Is such a team needed? Is it possible? How should it be organized? What should it do? What do **YOU** think?

(**Next Week:** An Important New Book on Christian Education)

NOTICE

Applications are now being taken for the position of Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. Interested persons should send their resumes to the Rev. Robert May at the following address: Route 4, Box 387, Ahoskie, NC 27910.

A SPECIAL THANKS

Dear Joan, Mitzi, Central District Young People, Sponsors and Ministers,

The meeting of our youth at Bethany Church on January 15, will remain in my heart and memory for as long as I live. In your inimitable, loving way you brought love and honor to me. You carried me to a mountaintop experience, but at the same time I've never felt so humble and undeserving. I am grateful for your every kind word and expression of love.

Never let it be said that my church family at Bethany cannot keep a secret. They did a great job in helping the young people plan such a memorable occasion for me. I am grateful to them for their graciousness in preparing special refreshments and the special bulletin board. No one could have a more loving church family than we have.

It is rewarding to be respected and loved by those in your own age group, but to be respected and loved by such beautiful Christian young people is a plateau that defies description. The "heart to heart" feeling that we've shared through the years has established a bond between us that I only hope will be strengthened through the coming years. I will always be praying for you, boosting you in all your efforts in service for our Lord, and loving you as a friend, always eager to share in your victories and ever anxious to help you when a need arises.

Our young people are fortunate to have you as leaders, Joan and Mitzi. You were not drafted to do a task. The Lord spoke to your hearts to help guide our youth and you answered the call. Loving and caring for young people and a willingness to work are prerequisites in helping carry on youth work. I will never cease to lift you and give you my support as you continue to work with the sponsors and young people.

The Central District is blessed with men and women who are willing to encourage and lead our young people into a closer walk with our Lord. The efforts of the sponsors were an inspiration to me—to know we were all working together to show the love of Christ, to help our youth find the deep joy in serving our Lord and to find direction for their lives.

When the ministers are recognized in our youth conventions my heart is warmed, because I know they are supporting and praying for our youth. You don't ask our folks to go, you go with them. I am thankful for the love and support of ministers. Ministers, please continue to work closely with the youth sponsors in your church and with Joan and Mitzi. Listen attentively to the young people. They have so many goals. Your prayers and support are a vital part of the whole program.

Young people, listen carefully to what I say to you. You are so special—so precious. If I could have, I would liked to have gone down each aisle and pew and expressed my love to each one, from the youngest to the oldest. Some of those present for this special meeting I've watched grow into responsible adults. Some have moved into their life's vocations; some into homes with husbands and wives; others into the roles of parents, into higher education, into the ministry, and into active church work as youth sponsors and teachers. As they have found positive direction they have remained close to our Lord in love and service. In finding their places they let Christ have preeminence. There is such a reward in knowing that our lives have touched and all of our lives are enriched because of this touch.

I know you want us to continuously encourage you, to love you, and to understand you. You need us to work circumspectly before you that you can see by our example the joy and abundant life in working by the leading and guiding of the Holy Spirit of our Lord. Young people, may the song in your hearts always be "Jesus Loves Me" and "I Will Serve Thee Because I Love Thee." I love you and want more than anything for you that you find joy and salvation in our Lord.

Today, as I sit here reflecting on the way you remembered me, my heart is filled with joy. I thank God that I was given the opportunity to serve Him through working with young people. Whatever we were able to accomplish together we must give Him the praise and the honor. It is my prayer that all the things we were able to do will be like pebbles dropped in a still pond, that the ripples will continue on and on into larger circles that others might be drawn to Him. Being able to work for Him in loving and sharing with you dear people was reward enough.

(Continued on Page 14)

Cape Fear Union Meeting Announced

Cape Fear Union Meeting will be held at Lanwood Chapel Church near Smithfield, on Saturday, January 29, 1983. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotion, the Rev. Atlas Hogg
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response, the Rev. Elmer Thompson
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading of Minutes of Last Meeting
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music
—Offertory and Offertory Prayer
—Message, the Rev. Henry Armstrong
12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Reports of Committees
—Unfinished Business
—Benediction and Adjournment
—Lunch and Fellowship
Moderator, the Rev. Jeff Scarborough
Secretary, Mrs. Ruth Warrick

Second Union Meeting of Western Conference to Meet

The Second Union Meeting of the Western Conference will meet with Rock Springs Church, Bailey, North Carolina, on Saturday, January 29, 1983, at 7 p.m. The Union and the host church invite everyone to attend. The host church is in charge of the program.

Weekend Youth Revival at Westside Church

Westside Church, 1205 Lynn Drive, Kinston, North Carolina, will hold a weekend youth revival, January 28-30. The services on Friday and Saturday nights will begin at 7:30. The Sunday services will be at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. There will be a different speaker for each service. On Friday night, Ricky Harrell, a recent graduate of Bethel Academy, will be the guest speaker. The speaker for Saturday night is Mike Carper, a senior at Mount Calvary Free Will Baptist Academy of Hookerton. Van Mitchell, from Grifton, will be guest speaker for the Sunday morning worship service.

The Sunday evening worship service will be made up of youth singing groups from Free Will Baptist Churches in the surrounding area, a "praise testimonial service," a puppet ministry, and special singing from the local church.

A fellowship hour with refreshments will follow the Sunday evening worship service.

Directions to the church are: follow Hardee Road, which runs in front of the Vernon Park Mall, to the end, which is Carey Road, then turn right on Carey, go to third street on left, follow Riley Road to the end, turn right on Lynn Drive and the church is on the left. If there are any problems in finding the church, call 522-4505 and someone will be sent to help you.

Cape Fear Ministers' Conference to Meet

The Cape Fear Ministers' Conference will meet on Monday, January 24, at 10 a.m., in the Conference Room of the Smithfield Bible and Bookstore, Smithfield. The Rev. Frank Harrison is scheduled to present a program on "Materials Available to the Minister" (through Mount Olive College and other sources).

The Rev. T. C. Farmer, president of the conference, encourages all of the Cape Fear ministers to attend.

Sego Brothers and Naomi To Be in Concert

The Sego Brothers and Naomi will be featured in concert on Thursday, January 27, at 7:30 p.m., at White Oak Church in Bladenboro. The church is located on Highway 211 Business in Bladenboro. The pastor is the Rev. Jack Lassiter; the public is invited to attend this service.

Musical Talent Invited To Grifton Mission

The members of the Original Free Will Baptist Mission of Grifton would like to invite musical talent from area churches to share with them in their worship services. If any choirs or other singing groups would like to be of service, call Dennis Holloman at 527-5330, director of music; or the Rev. James Sowers at 527-9835, pastor.

Heavenbound to Sing At Gum Swamp Church

A program of gospel music will be presented Sunday, January 30, at 7 p.m. at Gum Swamp Church, Belvoir. *Heavenbound,* from Kinston, will be the guest singers.

The pastor of Gum Swamp Church, the Rev. Ray Williamson, and the congregation cordially invite everyone to join them in this service.

Smith's New Home Woman's Auxiliary Had Christmas Party

The annual Christmas party of the Smith's New Home Woman's Auxiliary, Route 1, Deep Run, North Carolina, was a delightful occasion. On December 13, 1982, the auxiliary members and their husbands were entertained by the Bryans in their home on Route 1, Dudley, North Carolina.

The party began at 7 p.m. with appetizers being served by the hostess. Deacon Herman Hill blessed the dinner which followed. Then a short business meeting was called to order by Mrs. Verdie Hill, auxiliary president. The auxiliary members and their husbands all gathered around the Christmas tree to exchange

gifts and reveal their secret pals for the year. The Rev. A. B. Bryan, pastor of the church, made some brief remarks concerning his love for the church people and the true meaning of sharing the Christmas spirit in the right perspective.

Mrs. Happy Taylor, a member of the local auxiliary and president of the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, then introduced Mrs. Dola Dudley, a well-known person in auxiliary work, as the special guest speaker. Mrs. Dudley proceeded to give a most interesting program on "Christmas Joy and What It Means in Our Lives to Share the Story of Christ's Birth." The group sang two Christmas carols after which the benediction was pronounced by Mrs. Clarence Smith of the local auxiliary.

First Church, Durham, Hosts Watch Night Services

On December 31, First Church of Durham was host to the New Year's Eve Watch Night Services sponsored by the Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association of Durham. Participating churches were: Calvary, the Rev. Charles Keith; Faith, the Rev. Harry Brown; First, the Rev. Fred Johnson; Immanuel, the Rev. Bobby Bazen; Oak Grove, the Rev. Billy Keith; Sherron Acres, the Rev. Roy Clifton.

The services began at 8 p.m. with congregational singing led by the Rev. Billy Keith. Then a hearty welcome was given by the Rev. Fred Johnson. Special music was furnished by the First Church choir led by Olif Paschall. Other special music was provided by the Rev. Billy Keith and family, Carl and Frances Choplin of Sherron Acres and Mr. Bill Byrd of First Church. Testimony services were led by the Rev. Bobby Bazen.

The Rev. Fred Rivenbark, associate pastor of Sherron Acres Church brought the first message, "Goals for '83." The Revs. Charles Keith and Roy Clifton also brought messages.

The services ended at midnight with closing altar prayer led by the Rev. Fred Johnson. Everyone present received a blessing.

New Pastor at Faith Church

The Rev. and Mrs. Hubert Stanley

On Sunday, December 5, 1982, the Rev. Hubert Stanley began his ministry at Faith Church, Route 2, Four Oaks, North Carolina. Worship services changed January 2, 1983, to every Sunday morning, instead of first and third Sundays. Mr. Stanley challenges the people of Faith Church to love and serve the Lord better if they want to enjoy their Christianity. It is the Stanleys' prayer that the church will grow in membership, by lost souls being saved; backsliding members being reclaimed; and many who have become inactive becoming active again.

Sandy Plain Church Has Auxiliary Installation

Sandy Plain Church Woman's Auxiliary Installation Service was held Sunday night, January 2. The service began with singing "To the Work." The Rev. Ransom McAbee read Scripture and thanked the Auxiliary for what they had done in 1982 and their willingness to work in 1983.

The service was then turned over to Mrs. Mamie Kennedy who used a wheel for an example of how God should be in the center of the lives of people. She then asked each officer to come and put their spokes around the center—God. She then put the rim, which was the church, around the spokes so the wheel would go.

This formed the hopes of 1983—working together for the glory of God. The officers then formed a circle and had prayer. The right hand of fellowship was given to the officers.

First Union of Western Conference to Meet

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet on Saturday, January 29, 1983, with Mount Zion Church, Wilson County. The host pastor, the Rev. Jimmie Barfield, and the Union extend a cordial welcome to everyone, and especially the Western Conference churches, and ministers. The Rev. Roy Clifton, pastor of Sherron Acres Church, will preach the Union message.

Fourth Central Union Meeting to Be Held

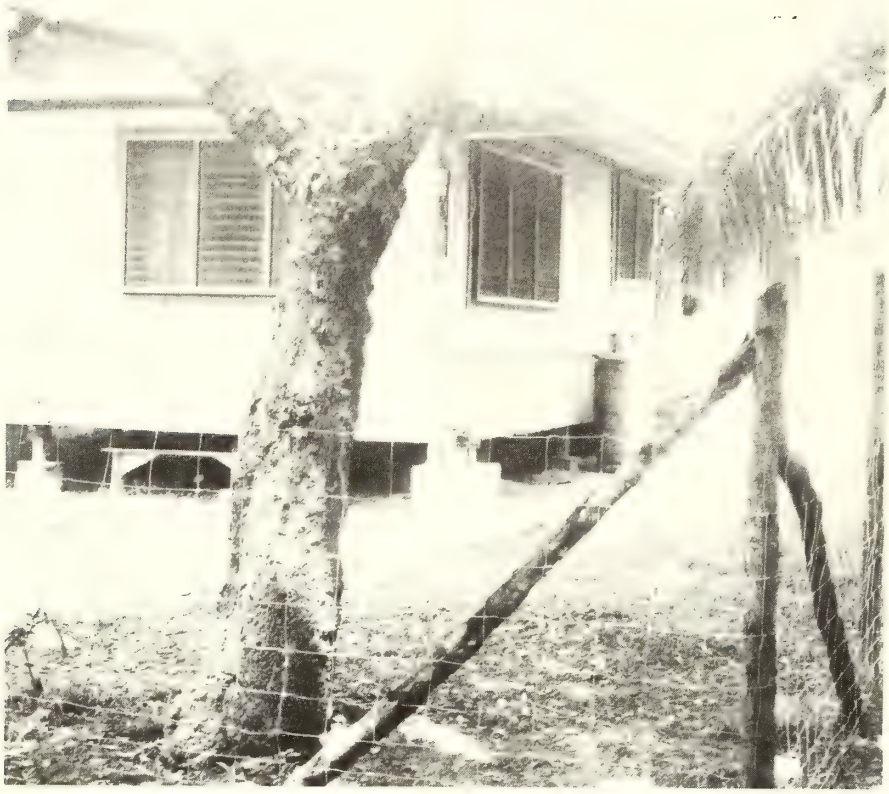
The Fourth Central Union Meeting will be held at LaGrange Church, on January 31, 1983. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

10:00—Sunday School
11:00—Hymn, "Wonderful Story of Love"
—Welcome, Sudie Wiggins
—Response, Donald Webb
11:15—President's Remark
—Greetings from the Children's Home
—Mount Olive College Report
—Missions Report
11:30—Special Music, Aspen Grove Quartet
—Sermon, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood

(Continued on Page 14)

NEW FENCES INSTALLED



A new fence has been erected around the property on which our two mission homes are located. We are very happy with this new addition. The new fence is of 4-foot-high hogwire on 4-inch-diameter posts. This replaces the old bamboo fence that was falling down. The old fence was built of small bamboo poles held together by strips of rattan.

The homes are located on property adjacent to the runway of the Puerto Princesa Airport. The area is known as Dagomboy Village. We are only 50-75 yards from the main street, Rizal Avenue. The fence provides security from those who would otherwise be tempted to shortcut through our yards. It also keeps the neighbors' animals (goats, pigs, dogs, cats, chickens, cattle, etc.) away from our drying clothes and flower beds. This in turn gives the children a safe and healthy environment for playing.

The new fence enhances our lives in many ways. The aesthetic qualities of the natural surroundings are not blocked out anymore. We have a better view out and others a better view in. Of course, this lessens our privacy somewhat. But, the increased visibility adds to our sense of belonging. It affords us a better vantage point from which to study the cultural and home life patterns of those we are sent to minister unto.

The new fence adds to our feeling that our house is now a home. We continue to have a deep sense of gratitude for the State Convention and the Foreign Missions Board for allowing us to experience the Lord's blessings in this place. Surely, this is where God would have us serve. Thank you!

The Barnards

CLASS OF 1983 ORDERS RINGS

Twelve students of Palawan Bible Institute experienced the long-awaited thrill of being fitted for their class rings on October 25, 1982. This yearly happening, now completed, marks a high-water point in their Christian lives. It has become symbolic of their perseverance and of God's manifold blessings upon their lives. Their smiles and excitement bear out my observations that they feel in many ways that they have "arrived."

However, as Christmas break approached, they had to overcome one more hurdle. This hurdle is the final trimester of the school year. Beginning on January 3, 1983, and ending on March 18, 1983, it remained as their greatest challenge thus far. These last 11 weeks of study will be days of unparalleled joy and of unparalleled sorrow. During this period they will be overjoyed by receiving their class rings and, of course, their diplomas. Also, the sorrow will come in saying good-bye to friends and classmates. Perhaps, the greatest difficulty facing these fine young Christians will be the decision each must make concerning the future.

Please take time out of your busy schedules to offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God for these students. While praying, remember to ask God's blessing and continued leading in their lives.

Thus, the third graduating class of Palawan Bible Institute, is larger than the preceding two combined. Much of the future of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines will be decided by their life decisions. We, the faculty and administration of P.B.I., count upon your prayers to tip the scales in favor of their pursuing full-time Christian vocations.

Please contact the Foreign Missions Office for more information concerning how you and your church can help these young people and others like them in their search for truth and purpose in their lives.

Charles Barnard

A PROFILE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Members of Mount Olive College's Board of Trustees for 1983 are as follows: (seated, left to right) State Senator Harold Hardison, Deep Run; Chairman James B. Hunt Sr., Lucama; President W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive; State Representative Samuel D. Bundy, Farmville; Dr. Annie J. Sutton, Faison; Mrs. Edna Scarborough, Mount Olive; Miss Louise Edgerton, Pikeville; and Mrs. Lena Walston, Walstonburg. (Standing) L. Marvin Edwards Jr., Wilson; Fred L. Pait, Bladenboro; John C. Howard, Deep Run; John M. Hines, Kinston; R. Clayton Everett, Mathews; Charles W. Pittman III, Wilson; William S. Wilkins, Mount Olive; Wade H. Stephenson, Smithfield; William D. Thigpen, Beulaville; S. Woodrow McCoy, Cove City; Nathan Garner, Newport; Dr. Eugene Sumner, Raleigh; Raymond T. Sasser, Wilson; M. Sherrill Williams, Newton Grove; William McLawhorn, Ayden; and Gary M. Bailey, president of the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, Goldsboro. Not pictured are Trustees Mrs. Alice Barrow, Snow Hill; C. Felton Godwin, Newton Grove; Mrs. Eva Harris, Greenville; Judge Arnold O. Jones, Goldsboro; Mrs. Elizabeth Kemp, Goldsboro; Charles K. McCotter, New Bern; Howard F. Scott, Kinston; and Mrs. Eula P. Whitley, Goldsboro.

The policy making and governing agency of Mount Olive College is its thirty member Board of Trustees. Since the College is owned by the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, all trustees are elected by the Convention. The term of office is six years with five members being elected or re-elected annually.

Major functions of the Board include choosing the president and evaluating his performance, electing the major administrative officers of the College, approving appointments to the faculty, authorizing the annual budget, approving audits of all fiscal operations, long-range planning, authorizing all new buildings, approving the purchase or sale of any real estate, serving as trustees of the endowments and other funds entrusted to the College, establishing major policies for the academic and student life programs, authorizing the degrees to be offered, and recommending any amendments to the Charter. Trustees are also responsible for assuring that the College has adequate funds for all budgets and projects they approve.

Organization

To carry out its functions, the Board is divided into four standing committees: Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Business Affairs, and Development-Public Relations. Each member serves on one committee except the Chairman who is an ex officio member of all committees.

In addition, the Executive Committee is composed of the officers of the Board (Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary), the Chairman of each standing committee and two members at large.

The Board meets quarterly in the months of February, May, August and November, with November designated as the annual meeting.

Support of the College

Mount Olive College trustees serve without pay or travel reimbursement to meetings, and they also contribute generously to the College.

During 1982, their gift support totaled $50,752 in direct gifts, not including contributions made through their church budgets.

Current members of the Board have made gifts and pledges to College Hall totaling $169,330, and in addition eighteen trustees bought $261,000 in College Hall bonds.

Eleven trustees participate in the College's program of Charitable Giving Through Life Insurance with policies payable to the College in the amount of $144,500. The premiums are paid by the participating trustees.

Six members of the Board have Family Endowment Funds with combined assets of $26,278, and two have life-income contract investments of $36,000. Four trustees have informed the president that they have included the College in their wills.

Diversity in Membership

The thirty members of the Board include four ministers, eight women, two alumni and ten parents of alumni.

(Continued on Page 14)

CHILDREN'S HOME

DISCUSS SIGNING COMPLIANCE ACT

On December 14, 1982, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc., met to discuss signing the Civil Rights Compliance Act of 1964. After much discussion of the pros and cons there was a motion made, seconded, and carried by a vote of 7 to 3 that the Home sign the Civil Rights Compliance Act of 1964.

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY

GREETINGS FROM THE HILLS

Greetings to you all! This year, as in the past, I am available to come to your church and talk about Cragmont and the kind of ministry it offers to the people of our denomination. Every year we have people come to Cragmont who have never been before. It is great to see them explore the grounds and come to understand how much the youth must enjoy spending a week at Cragmont.

Over the past two years only 51% of the churches in our denomination made some kind of contribution to Cragmont. It is my desire to see 100% coming from our churches in support of the ministry of Cragmont. Cragmont is a mission station for the youth of our church. Let me come to your church. I am available in February and March.

John Williams, *Manager*

NOTICE

From: The Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

To: All Conferences and Associations in good standing with the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

By motion, the credentials of the Rev. Rudy Owens have been declared null and void as of January 11, 1983. This action is taken in view of the fact that Mr. Owens is no longer a member of a Free Will Baptist Church in good standing with the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

By motion, the credentials of the Rev. Vance Link have been declared null and void as of January 11, 1983. This action is taken due to Mr. Link's failure to comply with requirements set forth by the Western Conference Board of Ordination.

Ray Wells, *Clerk*
Western Conference Board of Ordination

ATTENTION WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

Now is the time for you to collect your per capita dues, if you have not already done so. These dues should be collected during the first months of the year, in time to be sent to your district treasurer before, or in time for your district convention. The dues are $ .40 per member per year.

Send these dues to your district treasurer; she will keep $ .20 and send $ .20 to your state treasurer. It is necessary that you cooperate in this as these dues provide a part of the funds for the operational expenses of your convention. Thank you for your past cooperation; we know that we can continue to count on you.

Your State Treasurer,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser

ATTENTION ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS MINISTERS

The North Carolina Ministers' Association has between 90 to 100 ministers who are dues-paying, card-carrying members. The Ministers' Association can be only as good and strong as our members make it. The association provides the Christian Flag Burial Service for all members who request this service. The association also organizes and plans the program for the mid-year Spiritual Life Conference and the Cragmont Conference. Programs are planned with the view of enriching the minister's spiritual, personal and professional life.

We hope the association can be a unifying force among our ministers. In order to accomplish that goal we need your participation.

We urge more of our ministers to become active participants in the North Carolina Ministers' Association of Original Free Will Baptists.

Send your dues ($5 per year) to: The Rev. Ralph Sumner, Treasurer, P.O. Box 298, Oriental, North Carolina 28571.

The Rev. Ralph Sumner, *Treasurer*

ATTENTION CHURCHES OF THE ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

The Albemarle Layman's League invites you to attend a youth singspiration, January 30, 1983. The singspiration will be held at Sound Side Free Will Baptist Church near Columbia, at 3 p.m. We would also like to invite the youth of your church to participate. For further information contact James Cahoon at Sound Side Church.

Mike Cuthrell
Secretary-Treasurer,
Albemarle Layman's League

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Rev. and Mrs. Bryant Hines are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Joshua Bryant Hines. Joshua was born January 12, 1983, and weighed 8 pounds and 11 ounces. Both mother and son are doing fine.

Mr. Hines is pastor of Casey's Chapel Church, Goldsboro.

CHURCH AVAILABLE

Mount Tabor Church, Creswell, is in need of a pastor for full-time services. Anyone interested should contact Fentress Simmons at 797-4448.

For January 30

TEACHING ABOUT STEWARDSHIP

Lesson Text: Luke 16:1-13
Memory Verse: Luke 16:13

I. INTRODUCTION

There is a story about a man who tied his heavy money belt full of gold around his waist right before he jumped overboard from a sinking ship. Later the divers found him at the bottom of the sea with the weighty gold still in the money belt around his waist. While he thought he had gotten his gold, his gold had gotten him.

There is another story about a millionaire who was buried in a new Cadillac, diamond rings on his fingers, and a ten-dollar cigar in his mouth. As the Cadillac was being lowered into the grave, a bystander remarked, "Man, that is really living!" Few of us would agree.

Real living is not measured by how much we accumulate, but rather how well we use what we possess. Our living is measured by our stewardship instead of our savings.

Luke 16 records two parables Jesus told about stewardship. These two parables immediately follow the parable Jesus told about a son who did not use his possessions with wisdom or compassion (last week's lesson). Although Jesus did not tell the parable of the prodigal son to teach about stewardship, He knew that such teaching was essential for those who wished to be His disciples.

The parable about the rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31) emphasizes stewardship combined with compassion for those in need. The parable we will consider today (vv. 1-13) deals with stewardship combined with wisdom.

The parable of today's lesson has popularly been called the parable of the dishonest or unjust steward, but perhaps it would be better entitled the parable of the shrewd manager. It was designed to teach us to use the resources available to us in such a way as to enhance our eternal well-being.

The steward in this parable was headed the wrong way, but he changed the course of his life, and so can we.

In the Rose Bowl game of 1929, Roy Riegels picked up a fumble and began running toward the opponent's goal line. Twisting and turning to avoid being tackled, Riegels became disoriented and began running toward his own goal line instead. One of his teammates tackled him just before he crossed the line. On the next play his team attempted to punt, but it was blocked and the opponents fell on the ball in the end zone for a safety. In the dressing room at half-time, the coach told Roy that he was going to start with the team in the second half. He would not allow that game to be over for Roy because of his past blunder.

Have you made a mess of your life? Life is not over yet. There is still time. Get up and get back to living with the right goal in sight.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. This is the last of five lessons on the teachings of Jesus. It is interesting to observe that we had at least one parable in each of these lessons. These parables are sometimes difficult to properly interpret. The one we have today especially has some difficult aspects to it.

B. Every Christian will come to judgment. This is not a judgment of sin. The Christian's sin has already been judged on the Cross of Christ. His destiny has been sealed by his disposition of Christ. But he will come into a judgment of works, a judgment of stewardship. This is at the Judgment Seat of Christ when the Christian will be rewarded for faithfulness.

C. In the lesson today, we have the story of an unjust steward. The master had left his goods in charge of the steward, but he was not faithful in the handling of that which belonged to another. The master told him that he would have to give an account of his stewardship. Each of us will have to have an accounting of our stewardship.

D. The master of the steward appeared to commend the unjust steward, but he did not commend his dishonesty. Jesus would never condone such a thing. What He did commend was the fact that the steward looked to the future and tried to make provisions for himself.

E. Jesus makes it clear that if we cannot be trusted with little things we cannot expect God to give us greater things. Is it possible that it could be that the reason we do not have more in this world is because of our lack of faithfulness in handling the little we have, that God will not trust us with more? Be faithful with what you do have and God will give you more.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The late Samuel M. Shoemaker tells this interesting story. He said that many years ago a United States Senator was talking with him. The Senator had had a lot of money and lost it, but his wife kept on spending as though they had plenty of money. The Senator asked Mr. Shoemaker what he could do. Mr. Shoemaker said, "Senator, you have lived a lot longer than I have, but I believe that if you would bring God in on the situation, it would clear up.—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

Scripture Reading—Numbers 14-17

UNPRAYED-FOR MISSIONARIES

James Gilmore was a foreign missionary. He felt that mission work could not succeed without prayer by God's children in the homeland. He said, "Unprayed for, I feel like a diver on the bottom of the river with no connecting line to the surface and no air to breathe; or like a fireman with an empty hose on a burning building. With prayer, I feel like David facing Goliath!"

Many of you have asked to know our real prayer needs. We missionaries go from daylight to midnight in a terrific heat witnessing for Christ but seeing little response. Sickness strikes many of our homes. Depression sweeps new missionaries. We see need after need that must be filled, and yet we have no immediate answer. Our need is not financial, for we are well provided for. Our greatest need is for the power of the Holy Spirit to saturate our lives (a missionary).

MONDAY, JANUARY 31

Scripture Reading—Numbers 18-21

EXCEPT THEY BE SENT

A young medical doctor came to his pastor one day and joyously said, "Pastor, I have volunteered for mission service. How thrilled I am to obey the Saviour's command, 'Go *ye* into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.' " The pastor was delighted. He warmly congratulated the young doctor. Continuing, the doctor said, "I have dedicated my profession, my life, my *all* to God. I have entered into sacred covenant with God to earn money for Him and expend it in sending out missionaries into the regions beyond with the gospel of the grace of God!"

Before the Judgment Seat of Christ, the young doctor will be *equally* rewarded with the missionaries whom his dollars sent to faraway places.

For who will hearken unto you in this matter? but as his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike (1 Samuel 30:24).

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Scripture Reading—Numbers 22-25

JESUS IS HERE

Out where the loneliness presses around me,
Looking on sights that are sordid and drear,
Strangely abiding—yet surely God called me,
Why do I wonder if Jesus is here?

Strangeness of living and strangeness of people,
Have I not come with the gospel of cheer?
Why is my heart then depressed with its burden?
Isn't my Comrade—my Jesus—out here?

God! Teach me quickly to do without friendships,
How to let go of those things that were dear,
How to be rid of this self that is binding me,
Surely my Master, my Jesus, is here.

Wilt Thou forgive me for failure in serving;
Heartache, depression, regrets, disappear.
Born of the Cross, a new courage infills me;
Jesus, my Victory, my Life, is now here!

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Scripture Reading—Numbers 26-29

FOR COUNTRY, FOR CHRIST

For seven days, Airman Don Farrell underwent severe and dangerous tests, making make-believe trips to the moon. After the exhausting tests he repeated his offer. He said, "I would really and truly like to make that first trip to the moon! I am available if you want me!"

If others bravely do so much for their country, shouldn't God's children bravely go forth to the dark places on earth where Christ has never been named?

There are ninety and nine that safely lie,
In the shelter of the fold,
But millions are left outside to die,
For the ninety and nine are cold!
Away in sin's delusive snare,
Hastening to death and dark despair,
Hastening to death and none to care,
For the ninety and nine are cold!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Scripture Reading—Numbers 30-33

YOU'RE NOW A MISSIONARY

The false attitude which sidetracks hundreds of young people from the foreign field is

expressed in the words, "I am going to be a foreign missionary." At the core of such a statement there is a basic misconception. The fact is, you are now a missionary or you are not a missionary. To put missionary service out in the future is to defeat the very purpose of missions. A missionary is fundamentally a soul-winner despite time or place. To conceive of the missionary as one who, after years of Bible school, college or seminary training, boards a plane and leaves for a foreign field is to misunderstand the entire proposition. To determine to be today the missionary that you hope to be in the future is the only true attitude.

Forget not that your first and principal business, as a disciple of Christ, is to give the gospel to those who have it not. He who is not a missionary Christian will be a missing Christian when the great day for the bestowing of rewards for faithful service comes.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Scripture Reading—Numbers 34-36; Deuteronomy 1, 2

THE FOREIGNER IN THE MIDST

God has brought the mission field of the world right to our door. My church in Chicago was near the University of Chicago. Oftentimes I walked on the campus of the university where I encountered students from many nations. They were of the "upper crust" of society in their respective countries—leaders and potential leaders.

One afternoon, as I walked on the campus, I first encountered an African. Going on a little further, I engaged a Chinese in conversation. Still further, I met a man from Bagdad. Finally, I encountered four Arabs! I spoke to all of them about the Saviour, and gave them gospel tracts.

Are these foreigners at our door less precious to God than their compatriots across the seas?

The mission field for all of us is where we are; besides, we can pray and give, and thus help to send the gospel to the ends of the earth.

Go not and glean in another field (Ruth 2:8).

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 3-6

NO PITY WHERE CHRIST IS UNKNOWN

How devoid of pity and compassion are a people who have no knowledge of God and of death's Conquerer, the ever living Saviour!

In the section of Africa where I was a missionary for more than a decade, it was not uncommon for the natives to kill, by a most torturous and slow death, aged ones who could no longer work. Their legs were broken and the protruding, splintered bones exposed to burning embers.

One day word came to the dispensary that an aged woman was at the nearby riverside, writhing in indescribable agony. The trail along which she had dragged herself was bespattered with blood. I took her on my back and brought her to the dispensary. The natives, totally devoid of any concern or sympathy, looked in amusement upon what I did.

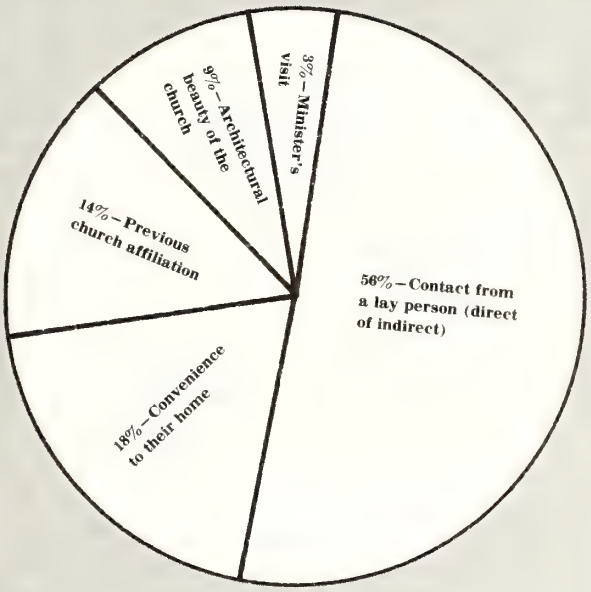
How accurately does the Word of God depict those calloused souls—"past feeling!"

What a change is wrought in them when they became new creatures in Christ!

"We've a story to tell to the nations." Let's hasten forth with its liberating message.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

WHY DO PEOPLE CHOOSE A CHURCH?



Why did you choose your church?
Why will others choose your church?
When will others choose your church?

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

(under the title "Every Coin Has Two Sides"); in the meantime, let us make our signs and post them where we have to see them. And if you have some extra paper, make one with the following message: *When I am wrong, dear Lord, make me easy to change, and when I am right, make me easy to live with* (Peter Marshall).

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 9)

By occupation, nine trustees are engaged in business and finance, seven in agriculture, five are educators, three are in public service, two are in the legal profession, and three are homemakers.

It is worth noting that six trustees are engaged in the operation of family owned business firms, one is a bank vice president, one is vice president of a savings and loan association, two are members of the North Carolina General Assembly (one in the Senate and the other in the House), one is a college professor, one is an attorney specializing in financial and estate planning, one is a district judge, one is a city financial manager, two have earned doctorates in education, one is chairman of the Board of Education in his county and at least two serve on bank boards.

This diversity of experience and knowledge is an invaluable asset in enabling the Board to make sound decisions for the operation and advancement of the College.

The development and growth of Mount Olive College is due in large measure to the dedication, support and wisdom of its trustees. Since the College was chartered in 1951, it has had only three board Chairmen: David W. Hansley, 1951-1963; Ralph A. Morris, 1963-1974; James B. Hunt Sr., 1974 to the present.

COURSE TO BE OFFERED

The Rev. De Wayne Eakes will teach a course on *Free Will Baptist History and Church Government* to begin Tuesday, February 1, at Free Union Church in Nash County. The class will meet on four consecutive Tuesday nights, from 7:30-9 p.m., ending on February 22.

There is no charge for registration although an offering will be received each night to help cover expenses.

The course is being sponsored through the Paul Palmer Institute of Mount Olive College and Free Union Church. The Rev. Lester Duncan is pastor of Free Union.

The Paul Palmer Institute is a program of continuing education designed to prepare ministers and laymen for more effective church service.

Mr. Eakes is pastor of Little Rock Church in Lucama.

A SPECIAL THANKS

(Continued from Page 5)

You chose to express to me your love and gratitude and I am grateful. Your expression came in an outward way in a special service with the kindest words from so many of my young friends, a poem written especially for me, a song, a beautiful silver engraved tray, and a lovely rose. It was so beautiful, but I never once doubted that you loved me and appreciated my efforts. You proved that by your willingness to serve, your loving ways, and dependability. I love you for that evening but I love you most for what is in your hearts.

May the wonderful spirit that abounds in the Central District continue for years to come. May we always be attentive to the will of our Lord as He leads and guides us into fields of service and love that we might always bring glory to Him.

Sponsors, our young people are our greatest asset. Let us not lose a one.

Young people, rise up and serve our Lord in the days of your youth. He has a special place for you to fill. Heed His call to serve and give Him your talents and time. It pays the highest dividends.

Like Paul in writing to the Philippians, I say to you also that "I thank God upon every remembrance of you. You will always have a very special place in my heart."

Love,
Dot D. Dail

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 7)

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15—Hymn, "More Like the Master"
—Devotions, the Rev. Robert Rollins
—Committee Reports
—Program, Local Church
2:15—Adjournment of Today's Business

WHY DIDN'T YOU HURRY?

When a father, who lived on the Western prairies, came home one night, his little boy ran through the long grass to meet him. Suddenly the boy disappeared. Running through the grass to the point where his boy vanished, the man heard a gurgling cry. His son had fallen into an old well. The father barely reached the well in time to save his boy. When the lad revived from his fright, he asked, "O Daddy, why didn't you hurry?"

Said the father later, "That boy's question made a missionary out of me. I seemed to hear the piteous, pleading cry of myriads in the regions beyond, 'Why don't you hurry? We are dying without God and without hope. Why don't you hurry with the gospel?' "

—(Selected)

THE MID-YEAR SPIRITUAL LIFE BANQUET OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FWB MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

The North Carolina Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association will be having its annual Mid-Year Spiritual Life Banquet on February 18, 1983. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m. with the meal at 7 p.m. This year's banquet will be held in the Spiritual Life Building of Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church just off Highway 70 in Clayton, North Carolina. The meal will be served by the host church at a cost of $5 per person.

The program for the evening will be special guest Dr. Bob Dale speaking on the subject "Stages in a Minister's Marriage."

All those attending the banquet are asked to please pre-register before February 8 so that the host church will know how many to prepare for. Send your name and $5 for the meal to: Doug Skinner, Box 117, Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510.

The Ministerial Association wishes to invite all of our Free Will Baptist ministers to come be with us at this retreat and to join our association.

MINISTERS' WIDOWS

The Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association would like for you to come be our guest at the annual Mid-Year Spiritual Life Banquet. If you can attend, just send your name and address before February 8 to: Doug Skinner, Box 117, Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510.

The Ministerial Association is also trying to compile a list of all ministers' widows. If you know of or have any information about our ministers' widows, please send it to Doug Skinner.

At its annual business meeting in 1979, the Ministerial Association made a pledge to the Cragmont Building Fund. The pledge was for $5,000 over a 5-year span. Below is how we stand after 3½ years.

Year	Amount Given
79-80	$ 920.00
80-81	690.00
81-82	422.00
82-83 thus far	260.00
Total	$2,292.00

We need $2,708 over the next year and a half. Gifts to this pledge should be sent to: Ralph Sumner, Box 298, Oriental, North Carolina 28571. If all of our ministers could give just $2 each a month over the next 18 months, we could easily meet this goal.

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

I, _____, will be attending the Mid-Year Spiritual Life Banquet on February 18, and am sending $ _____ for the meal, and will have _____ guest(s) with me.

Hidden Treasure

The 1983 youth program books have as their theme the Bible. Each number in the "Hidden Treasure" series surveys the Scriptures and does so in such a way that the entire Bible is covered by the end of the year.

The youth materials are available at the branch bookstores—Smithfield, Wilson, New Bern, Kinston, and Whiteville—or from the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the Ayden store. The youth materials sell for $1.75 each, while the leaders' guide is $2.50.

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

FEBRUARY IS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MONTH

The Free Will Baptist

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

Edited and published forty-eight times a year by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158. econd-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina USPS 209-440).

All materials to be placed in any issue must be in the hands of the editor seven days prior to the publication date of that issue.

The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.84; two years, $16.12; four years, $31.20 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

Fred A. Rivenbark, President; Dewey C. Boling, Vice President; Robert May, Secretary; C. Felton Godwin, Assistant Secretary; James B. Hardee; Walter Sutton; Clarissa May; David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

Editorial

Every Coin Has Two Sides

Few experiences in life turn out the way they are "supposed to." The big events, the ones in which we invest great sums of money, time, and energy, those for which background mood music is even provided, often fall flat. But just when we resign ourselves to living with dampened expectations, moments of truth, joy, and love burst unannounced into our experience. Usually it is only when we reflect later that we discover God's presence.

Life is not like a trip planned by a travel agency, where every reservation is made, every event carefully scheduled, all unpleasantness tucked away out of sight. On the contrary, life is a journey made as our own undertaking. We will take many spontaneous side trips; there will be lots of wrong turns made. Sometimes things happen to make us wonder if we have been reading the map upside down the whole time.

Maybe this is part of the reason we all come under attack. Since all of us are subject to error, perhaps we capitalize on the faults of others so as to hide or forget our own—but they are still there.

I become quite dismayed and rather alarmed when I hear "everyone" rise up against our Church and its leaders. This has reached epidemic proportions; so much so that denominational leaders feel they will be martyred no matter what they do. Because our church is small we cannot afford not to get along (but that's only Christian!). Yes, I know people are different and ideas often vary. But who said we should hate people just because their ideas differ from our own? We must love and respect people—even when we disagree with them. And as far as I know, war has not been declared among our ranks; there is no reason for camps to be set up. We must have unity—not demilitarized zones! Our present state of unrest and instability speaks (hollers?) very damagingly of our faith. No matter how we may feel about recent happenings and present conditions, the cause of Christ and Original Free Will Baptists is suffering. It is time we get back to the task for which we are here!

Yes, we have problems, and I will not minimize them, but there is no need for us to drown in self-pity. Part of the joy of the pilgrimage is in making the trip, detours and all. Maybe what we need to do is to plot the course together; we need to get rid of roadblocks, especially those we have set up. We are not supposed to be working and looking out for ourselves—we have work to do for God—and we can't do it when all our efforts are spent on trivial and/or political matters.

When I think of the Children of Israel, several things always stand out in my mind: they were lost in the wilderness, attacked by their enemies, guilty of sin, victims of their own "stupidity" and miscalculations. But they were special—God was with them.

No matter what, we must all pull together. We would also do well to remember that we, too, are real people. God is with us.

WHAT IS MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DOING FOR ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS?

by
Dr. Michael R. Pelt, Chairman
Department of Humanities

Dr. Michael Pelt

Mount Olive College came into being as a result of action taken by the North Carolina State Convention in its 1951 session. That action, taken thirty-one years ago, was prompted by the recognition that this convention needed such a college and that without it the future course of the denomination would be decided by forces outside of the mainstream of Original Free Will Baptist life. Subsequent events have vindicated that assessment with the result that the College has a fine record of support by Free Will Baptists and has in turn rendered vital services to the denomination and its people. A summary look at the kinds of services made available by the College may be helpful.

Mount Olive was established as a Christian liberal arts junior college, offering parallel courses for the first two years of many four-year degree programs, along with some terminal programs in business. The first obligation of such a college is to provide a quality education for its students in a setting where Christian truth and values are taught and exemplified.

Thousands of alumni have had the benefit of that kind of education at Mount Olive, a service which the church cannot provide apart from the establishment of a college. Thus, Free Will Baptist young people have had the option of attending a college sponsored by their own church, which would have been impossible without the foresight, planning and sacrifices of Free Will Baptist people.

There is no apparent way to measure the lasting benefits to the denomination and to the society in which we live because of the fact that thousands of young people have chosen to further their education at this college. These alumni are scattered throughout North Carolina and other states making their contributions to a better life for us all and at the same time helping to create a positive climate in which both the College and the Free Will Baptist denomination can continue to fulfill their purposes in the world.

Since its beginning, the administration of the College has been keenly aware of the special needs of the Free Will Baptist Church. Both the ministry and the laity of the church can achieve their potential only if they are fully equipped with the knowledge and skills which are useful in the work of the Kingdom. Church members have natural gifts which must be discovered, developed, and trained. While this process begins in the local church during childhood and youth, it can be carried forward in college and even beyond the normal college years when there is a real commitment to this purpose on the part of the Church and the College.

Education for Ministers

One aspect of this task is the preparation of those who are to serve as ministers or in other church vocations. No other single group is likely to have a greater influence on the life and mission of the denomination than its ministers.

(Turn the Page)

The College has taken the position that Free Will Baptist ministers should have an education that enables them to provide capable and informed spiritual leadership. This is one of the primary reasons for the development of a four-year program at Mount Olive College. Ministers need at least that much time to obtain a real grasp of the subject matter with which they must continue to grapple for the rest of their lives, as well as acquiring basic skills necessary for the work of the minister. Such tasks as preaching, teaching, pastoral calling, administration, counseling, leading in worship and the like require more training to be effective than many suppose.

The churches must see to it that their pastors have the benefit of such training; the conferences to which ministers belong must require it; and the ministers themselves must be willing to make the effort and the sacrifices required to obtain it. The College is doing and will do its part to provide the educational program to meet this need.

A four-year curriculum for the ministry has been planned and approved and will be implemented as part of the development of the College to four-year status. The class schedule is planned each semester to accommodate ministers who wish to commute on a Tuesday-Thursday or a Monday-Wednesday-Friday schedule and earn as many as twelve semester hours (usually four courses). In addition, courses in religion and related subjects are offered at night for the benefit of those who cannot attend classes during the day. These night classes when taken by ministers and church workers are offered at a cost of only $20 per course.

Already there are ninety-five pastors serving churches in the North Carolina State Convention who have taken some of their academic work at Mount Olive College. It is not too much to hope that by the end of this century the great majority of our pastors will be college graduates and that this will be possible because of the commitment of both the Church and the College to this goal.

Paul Palmer Institute

Another program through which the College has made a direct contribution to the denomination is the Paul Palmer Institute, which began in the early days of the College. It was originally designed to provide continuing education for ministers and laypersons who wanted to be better informed about the Bible, the Christian tradition and the Free Will Baptist heritage.

Later on courses were taught in areas like missions, evangelism, pastoral work, worship, Sunday school workshops and other practical subjects. Most such courses are taught for a period of four to eight weeks at minimal cost to the participants, and many courses are offered off campus, usually in local churches accessible to hundreds of Free Will Baptists. During the 1981-82 academic year, fourteen classes were conducted on or off campus and six Sunday school workshops were held in six different locations in eastern North Carolina. A total of 367 persons attended these classes and workshops.

The great majority of these were laypersons who simply wanted to be better Sunday school teachers, youth leaders or other officers in the local church. The value of these classes and workshops for the individuals participating and for the churches they serve is beyond measure. We are just beginning to see what benefits can be derived from this program. The number of individuals who can become involved is limited only by our imagination, planning, and commitment to improving the quality of life and services provided by our local churches.

The College has offered to provide a course wherever as many as ten people wish to enroll. In most cases the initiative for planning such a course should begin with a local church or area organization where there is recognition of a need. This is followed by contacting the Rev. Frank Harrison, director of the Paul Palmer Institute at Mount Olive College. Steps are then taken to provide an instructor and work out other details. Six courses began in September of this year, and courses are planned for later in the year.

Whereas the needs of the ministry were considered primary in the original planning for the Paul Palmer Institute, it now appears that a much greater training service will be provided for laypersons who are voluntary workers in the local churches.

Special Programs

There are numerous other services which the College is providing its sponsoring denomination. One of these is the annual Ministers' Institute which is held annually in early August. The quality of these programs is exceptionally good. In every case they are planned by a committee of ministers whose concern for continuing education of Free Will Baptist ministers is primary and whose breadth and depth of interest in this cause is demonstrated by the variety of topics included on the annual programs and the well-qualified speakers who appear on these programs. The attendance has been good (sixty-three participants in 1982), but every Free Will Baptist

(Continued on Page 14)

The History of the Central Conference Woman's Auxiliary Work

Part Seven

by Minnie Chandler

On September 27, 1939, a motion was made by Mrs. Katie Sawyer Jackson as follows: "We, the Central Conference Auxiliary Convention of North Carolina, do petition our National (Auxiliary) Convention to grant a sixth vice president and divide the work now allotted the fifth vice president, giving to the fifth the work of our Orphanage and local charitable work, and the sixth vice president that of superannuation or ministerial relief work."

This was granted by the National Convention and in the nominating committee's report of March 27, 1940, a sixth vice president had been added—Mrs. Carl Barrow.

On March 26, 1952, the following resolution was adopted: "Be it resolved that we recommend to the State Auxiliary Convention that in the newly revised Constitution and By-laws to be presented to this session of the convention be made to read: titles of vice presidents be called Chairmen instead of vice presidents."

This was granted by the State Auxiliary Convention so we can see that the Central Auxiliary Convention made several worthy contributions to the State plan of work.

Presidents of Central Auxiliary Convention:

Mrs. B. T. Manning, May 27, 1920—?

Mrs. Lillie Smith, November 10, 1921

Mrs. S. K. Jackson, September 5, 1923—March 1924

Mrs. N. D. Wiggs, March 18, 1925

Mrs. Katie Sawyer Jackson, March 17, 1926—September 1926 (Mrs. N. D. Wiggs was recorded as presiding over the 1926 session, but Mrs. Jackson's name is at the end of minutes as president. She served on the Finance Committee and also spoke that day, so she may have asked Mrs. Wiggs to preside for the day. Mrs. Jackson was reelected president at this meeting.)

Mrs. N. D. Wiggs, March 30, 1927

Mrs. S. K. Jackson (Katie Sawyer), September 28, 1927—March 27, 1929. (Katie Sawyer Jackson was elected March 30, 1927. Mrs. Katie Sawyer Jackson was reelected March 1928. Mrs. S. K. Jackson presided September 26, 1928, and March 27, 1929. However, the response *by the president* was from Mrs. Katie Sawyer Jackson. It has been mentioned in an earlier issue that it is believed that Mrs. S. K. Jackson and Katie Sawyer Jackson were the same person.)

Mrs. W. H. Harrison, September 25, 1929

Mrs. S. K. Jackson, September 27, 1933

Mrs. J. C. Moye, September 1935—March 1937

Mrs. Frank Shirley, September 29, 1937—March 1940

Mrs. Joe Barber, September 1940—March 1942

Mrs. Paul Thigpen, September 30, 1942—?

Mrs. J. C. Moye, September 27, 1944-1948

Mrs. J. C. Edmondson, September 29, 1948—March 1950

Mrs. Paul Thigpen, September 27, 1950

Mrs. L. E. Ballard, September 24, 1952—March 1953

Mrs. Jimmie Lee Jones, September 30, 1953—March 1955

Mrs. Frank Walston, September 28, 1955—March 1957

Mrs. Albert Proctor, September 25, 1957—March 1959

Mrs. Thomas E. Tyndall, September 30, 1959—March 1961

Mrs. Bill Taylor, September 27, 1961—March 1963

Mrs. Wilton Ellis, September 25, 1963—September 1965

Mrs. Raymond Sasser, March 30, 1966—March 1967

Mrs. Bruce Barrow, September 27, 1967—March 1971

Mrs. Leon Dunn, elected March 31, 1971. Resigned before September 1971 convention.

Mrs. Minnie Chandler, vice president, presided at September 1971 convention. Elected president at that session. Served through September 1975. Mrs. Alice Barrow presided in the September 26, 1973, meeting in the absence of Mrs. Chandler.

Mrs. Bruce Barrow, March 1976—March 1977

Mrs. Frances Carraway, September 1977—March 1982. Mrs. Gary Bailey, vice president, presided over the September 28, 1977, session and September 1978 afternoon session in the absence of Mrs. Carraway.

Mrs. Faye Little, September 25, 1982—?

Secretaries of Central Auxiliary Convention:

Mrs. William L. Nobles, May 27, 1920—November 21, 1921

Mrs. ? Taylor resigned September 5, 1923

Miss Nancye Dail elected September 5, 1923

Cornelia Nobles, assistant secretary, served September 5, 1923

Mrs. Nancye Dail (L. R.) Tripp, March 18, 1925—March 27, 1929

Mrs. Paul Thigpen, September 25, 1929—March 1933

Miss Elizabeth Warren, September 27, 1933—March 1937

Mrs. Carl Barrow, September 29, 1937—March 1940

Mrs. E. L. Dail, September 1940—March 1942

Mrs. R. L. Spivey, September 30, 1942—March 1944

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EASTERN DISTRICT WA NEWS

At the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Planners Meeting in September, 1982, the executive committee agreed to challenge all auxiliary members who could to give $5 per member toward one monthly payment for Camp Vandemere. The challenge was accepted by the convention in October, 1982. These ladies from Holly Springs Church in Newport met the challenge at the December Christmas meeting by giving $5 per member or a total of $150.

Mrs. Ann Garver, local president, stands next to the Christmas tree. Mrs. Rena Kirk, Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary President, stands first to the left. The white gifts received at this meeting were taken to the shut-ins by the youth groups as they sang Christmas carols to them.

St. Mary's Grove Church to Have Sweetheart Banquet

St. Mary's Grove Church, Route 3, Benson, will hold its Sweetheart Banquet on Saturday evening, February 12. The annual event is a time for all young people and their guests to be dined and entertained by the other members of the church. The not-so-young and their sweethearts are included too. The Woman's Auxiliary will provide the buffet meal, and the other church members will present the comedy program written and directed by the pastor, the Rev. Rod Jones. He will also serve as Master of Ceremonies.

Week-end Youth Revival at Owens Chapel Church

Owens Chapel Church, Route 3, Elm City, North Carolina, will be having a week-end youth revival on February 4-6. The Rev. Dennis Harrell of Pinetops will be the speaker on February 4. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Danny Braswell of Pinetops will be the speaker for the February 5 service which is beginning at 7:30 p.m. On Sunday, February 6, the Rev. Clinton Davis of Snow Hill will be the speaker. The time of this service is 7 p.m. There will be special singing each night. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The people of Owens Chapel Church say thank you to their young people, because they are always ready to help in times of need and they support the church with their presence. In the fall of 1982, the young people had a walk-a-thon to raise money for a little boy in the church who has cerebral palsy. They raised over $1,100. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Melvin Moore.

Rose Hill Burns Note, Dedicates Fellowship Building

On Sunday, January 23, the people of Rose Hill Church, Route 1, Winterville, observed a memorable day for the congregation. The day's activities began with Sunday school at 10 a.m. After the 11 a.m. worship service, the congregation gathered in the Beaman Fellowship Building for a covered-dish luncheon.

At 1:30 p.m. the Rose Hill Quartet sang selections of gospel praise to begin the services for the note burning and dedication of the Beaman Fellowship Building. Scripture was read by the pastor, the Rev. Leon Harris.

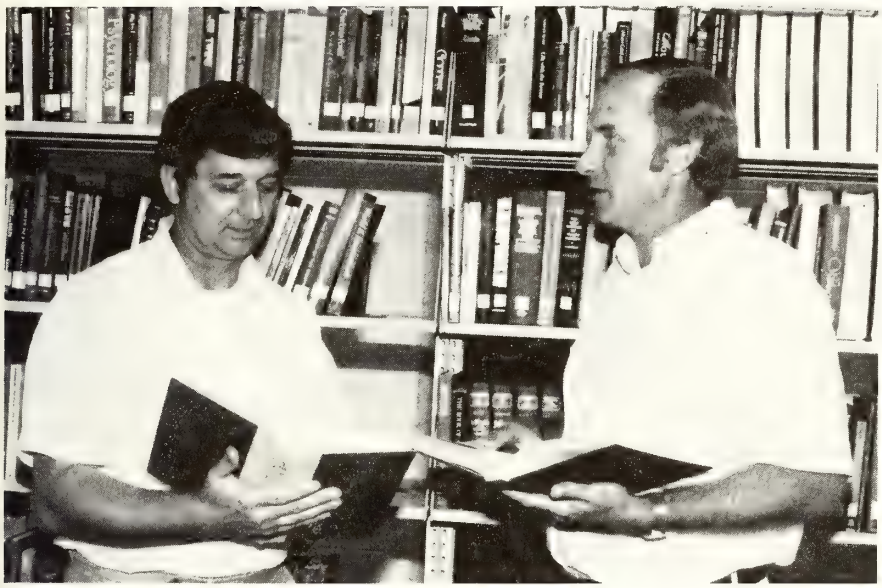
Building committee members included Delano Wilson, Raymond McLawhorn and Bill Haddock.

The note-burning service was performed by the pastor and the trustees of the church, Adrian Adams Jr., Ernest Loftin, Macon Page, and Delano Wilson. After this, the congregation sang the Doxology. Prayer and remarks were made by the Rev. N. Dan Beaman, for whom the fellowship building is named. Both he and Mrs. Beaman were honored guests for the occasion. He served as pastor of Rose Hill Church from 1964 to 1982. A response to Mr. Beaman's remarks was then given by Ledrew Stocks, chairman of the church board.

The program continued with responsive reading by the people of Rose Hill Church and the pastor. As a symbol of responsibility a key was passed during the services from the building committee, trustees, pastor, deacons, and the chairman of the board.

A plaque in the fellowship building was also revealed which paid tribute to the honoree. The congregation sang "Blest Be the Tie."

MINISTERIAL STUDENTS ENROLLED



Steve Hargrove, pastor of Elm Grove Church (left), and Carl Lyons, pastor of Cabin Church, were among the eleven new ministerial students who enrolled at Mount Olive College during the fall of 1982. The others are Ronnie Mohn, pastor of the First Church of Williamston; David Ricks, pastor of Ayden Church; Jerry Campbell, pastor of Northeast Church in Mount Olive; T. C. Farmer, pastor of Tee's Chapel Church in Smithfield; James Sowers, pastor of Grifton Mission; Steve Starnes, member of Holly Springs Church at Newport; Roger Heath, member of Spring Branch Church at Walstonburg; Jeffery Harrison, member of Marlboro Church; and Frank Thigpen, a member of Saratoga Church. Including the returning students, a total of 26 ministerial students were enrolled during the 1982-83 academic year in one of Mount Olive College's three degree programs for ministerial students.

RAYMOND E. AND MARY G. HART ENDOWMENT FUND

Raymond E. Hart

An endowment has been established at Mount Olive College in memory of the late Mr. and Mrs. Raymond E. Hart of Snow Hill.

The Hart Endowment had its beginning in 1975 when the members of Harrell's Chapel Church and area citizens held an appreciation dinner for Mr. Hart. Memorial gifts were added at the deaths of both Mrs. Hart (1898-1981) and Mr. Hart (1893-1981). Mr. Hart also included in his will a bequest to Mount Olive College which was assigned to the endowment. Assets of the fund currently total approximately $9,000.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, said that the principal of the endowment would remain in a permanent investment and that the income would be used in perpetual memory of Mr. and Mrs. Hart to advance the general purposes of the College.

The Harts were life-long residents of Greene County and long-time members of Harrell's Chapel Church. Mr. Hart's father, Elias Bynum Hart, was one of the founders of the Church in 1897.

Raymond Hart was a well-known citizen, community and church leader. He was a former Greene County commissioner and was active in Masonic work and the North Carolina Farm Bureau. His church activities included services as a trustee, clerk, deacon, member of the choir and teacher of the adult Sunday school class for twenty-nine years. He was an ardent worker and supporter of Mount Olive College and for many years served as the Greene County Chairman for the College's annual development dinner.

The Harts were married in 1915 and were the parents of ten children: Virgil Lee Hart, Mrs. Doris Genevieve Moore, Mrs. Edna Frazier, and Mrs. Valerie (Jim) Head, all of Snow Hill; Mrs. Celia (William Wayne) Wade of Stantonsburg; Ray Buren Hart of LaGrange; Mrs. Lucy (Robert) Hill and Dewey Wallace Hart, both of Hookerton; Mrs. Norma Cleo Cress of Lakeland, Florida; and Royce Wayne Hart of Kathleen, Florida.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker for the 11 a.m. service at Free Union Church, Beaufort County, on Sunday, February 6.

At 10 a.m. he will teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes.

The Rev. David Thick is pastor of Free Union Church.

VISIT THE CAMPUS IN FEBRUARY

One way to observe February as Christian Education Month is to bring a group from your church to visit the campus of Mount Olive College. Tours can be arranged on either Saturday

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THE TRIP TO INDIA

by Harold Jones

India is about half as big as the continental United States and yet this one nation has more lost people than the continents of North America, South America, and Africa combined. The population of India is close to 800 million.

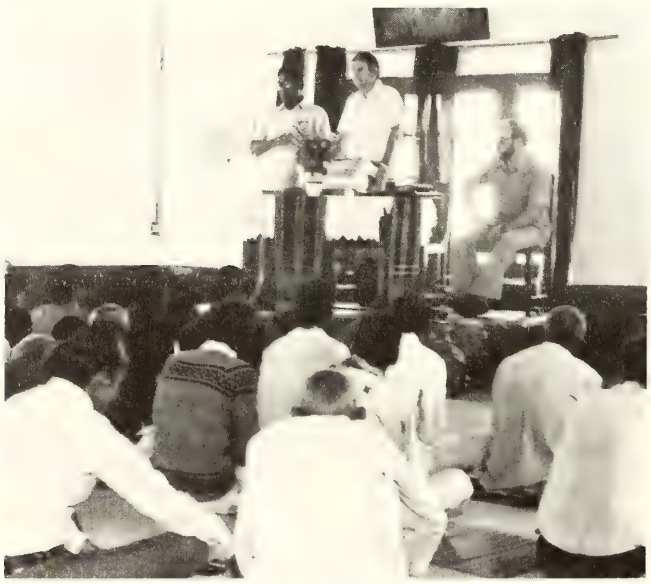
On my visit during September and October of 1982, I became more aware of the great need for Christ in this land of darkness, a land where evangelical Christians make up only 4% of the total population.

Upon arrival in New Delhi, the capital of India, we (the Rev. Dwight Hawley, pastor of Rock of Zion and I) went to the Parijat Hotel where we slept for almost twenty-four hours, trying to recover from the long flight. We left Raleigh-Durham Airport on September 20, at 1:40 p.m. and arrived in New Delhi, Wednesday, September 22, at 5:30 a.m. After the good rest, we traveled by hired car to the Annual Convention of the Free Will Baptist Church of India. The convention was held at Satal Ashram in the Kumaon Hills of Northern India. The convention dates were September 24-30. The days were filled with Bible study, preaching, teaching of Free Will Baptist doctrines, music and recreation.

The annual gathering serves as a convention and seminar and is extremely important for the spiritual growth of the pastors and deacons in the Indian Church.

The support of your local church makes this convention and seminar possible. Thank you as you continue to pray and give to your program of world evangelism.

Shown here are a few scenes from the convention.



Director Jones preaching

The Rev. Hawley teaching Free Will Baptist doctrines

The Rev. Singh, 98 years old, singing and teaching

Singing, one of their favorite pastimes

NOTICES

Applications are being accepted through February 15, 1983, for the position of Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. Interested persons should send their resumes to the Rev. Robert May at the following address: Route 4, Box 387, Ahoskie, NC 27910.

The Executive Committee of the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will meet February 15, 1983, at 10 a.m. in the Multipurpose Room at the Press. All members are asked to be present.

Scott Sowers, *Secretary*

RETREAT NEWS

Our policy for booking retreats at Cragmont, which was put into operation last year, allows us to take reservations over the phone as well as by mail, with a $50 deposit due within 30 days, so contact us if you have a group interested in planning a retreat. When you call, please try to have some idea of the size of your group. This, we understand, is hard to know until plans are more definite, but you must estimate and give us some idea of what to work with.

Our new policy also allows us to make reservations for next year if nothing is available in this year for you.

We would also like to promote to our senior citizens the idea of planning a retreat during the week in the spring or fall. This has worked very well for us for the last couple of years on a limited basis. We would like now to expand on this and use these week days for people who are able to travel during the week. I will be glad to discuss this with you and help you in making plans for a retreat.

Please contact Arlinda Williams for all reservations, 704-669-7677.

WINTER ACTIVITIES

The question is usually asked, "What goes on at Cragmont during the winter months?" The answer is "Plenty." From December through March we are very busy but in a different way than when we have guests to plan meals for and to prepare rooms for.

We always have the office work which involves receipting donations, writing letters, taking reservations and so on. Most of this work is handled by our part-time secretary, Mary Boswell.

The job of stripping and rewaxing the tile floors in the main building and dining hall can be a huge undertaking with only two people to do the work. We also wash all the blankets and bedspreads and store them to set up the buildings in the spring.

This year we have chosen one particular building to work on and spruce up. Much has already been done to give the motel a new look and we think our 1983 guests will really appreciate the improvements.

Another project that we hope to accomplish before our 1983 season begins is that of painting and generally cleaning up the lockers and bunk beds in the dorms.

We have also been working very hard on the area around the gym to prepare for our athletic field. It was decided to cut the trees from this area and save as much of this wood as possible for the fireplace and camp fires. In talking with landscaping people, we have learned that this will save us money and also give us the use of the wood.

With our limited staff, we do have plenty to keep us busy this winter.

Most of our buildings are closed and our kitchen is not in operation, but we do have a few rooms that can be used for overnight guests. If you plan to be in this area and would like to stay here, we would love to see you. Please call ahead to be sure that we can accommodate you and turn the heat on in your room before you get here. Even if you have plans to be in the area but are staying somewhere else, please come by to see us.

CONFERENCE PLANNED

The General Baptist Pastors' Conference will be held at Cragmont May 16-19, 1983. They were last here in May 1981, and from what we have heard, many of them missed coming to Cragmont last year. We are happy to have them coming back and once again we are asking for volunteers to help us host these ministers. There will be no cost for staying at Cragmont; however, you will need to provide your own transportation. The work will involve helping in the preparation of meals, washing dishes, house cleaning. You will also have the opportunity to fellowship with our guests. Also, please understand that the General Baptist ministers will have first choice of our housing facilities. Our "staff" will probably use one of the dorms. If you are interested please write or call us as soon as possible as we need to make our plans: Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711; phone, 1-704-669-7677.

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

Perhaps the most important book recently published on the ministry of Christian education is *Christian Religious Education: Sharing Our Story and Vision,* by Thomas H. Groome. Harper and Row published it in 1980. It is available in paperback at a cost of $10.95.

The author teaches at Boston College and lectures internationally. He has published widely in religious education journals, including *Religious Education, Lumen Vitae,* and *PACE*. John Westerhoff, editor of *Religious Education,* calls him "one of the most fertile minds in the field."

This book is a comprehensive introduction to the ministry of Christian education. It covers the six major questions—what, why, where, how, when, and who—in other words, the nature of, purpose of, context of, approach to, readiness for, and the co-partners in Christian religious education. This is

(Continued on Page 14)

Retirement Homes

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

Dear Friends of Retirement Homes,

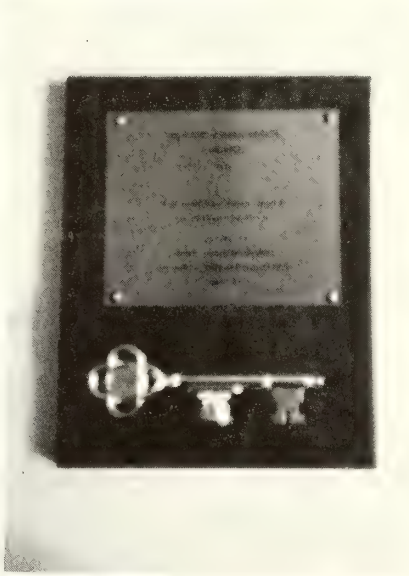
I would like to ask you this question—Would you like to see your Retirement Homes' board proceed in the construction of one cluster of buildings, which would provide six new apartments for those who are interested in applying for residency with us in the near future? If your answer is yes, then let me suggest to you what you can do to help us. You see, your Retirement Homes' board has to work with the funds that you send to us. We cannot begin to build until we have sufficient funding. These apartments, when completed, would be filled immediately. We had rather not delay any longer in construction, but we do not at this time have any choice. *I do not wish to incure any indebtedness on the Retirement Homes that we could not repay in a comfortable way.* Our landscape drawing has been completed. This drawing gives direction for both present and future development of the campus to contain retirement, rest home, and nursing facilities. The architect has completed drawing the first in a series of buildings for retired people. It is this cluster, containing six apartments, that we are now preparing to build. It is, we believe, our most urgent need at this time.

You can help, and here are my suggestions. Now, I have not yet had a contract price of the cost of this cluster of six apartments as of this writing, but the architect says he thinks it will be between $75,000 and $100,000. This is a large sum of money. We have one-fourth of that amount on hand, deposited with Church Finance Association. Friends, we need your prayers and your gift support. The economy is bad, I know, and unemployment is at an all-time high, and gift support to the Retirement Homes over the past month has been turned around in recent months. If you are truly interested in our Retirement Homes, please make a personal gift today. If you make it in the amount of $25 we will give you, at your request, a beautiful ladies or men's watch with the words "Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes" shown on the face with the logo. Twenty-five dollars is a small amount; if you could give more it will be appreciated. Also, please encourage your friends and your church to contribute. Your gift and prayer support will be appreciated.

Sincerely,
Walter J. Sutton,
Director

Home Missions

BEAVERDAM CHURCH HONORED



The Department of Home Missions of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists recognized the members of Beaverdam Church on December 12, 1982, for their loyal support. The church was presented a "Key of Excellence" plaque.

This is the first such plaque to be presented by the Home Missions Board in their "Keys to Growth" program. The "Key of Excellence" plaque is presented to those who contribute $1,200 or more to Home Missions.

The members of Beaverdam Church are to be congratulated for their vision of the need to reach lost souls and establish new Free Will Baptist churches in America.

The Rev. William Jackie Godwin is pastor of the church, and Mr. Jack Penny, a member of the church, is a faithful member of the Home Missions Board.

MACEDONIA CHURCH PLANS SERIES

The Education Committee of Macedonia Church, Ernul, in cooperation with the State Sunday School Convention Certification Program for Sunday School Teachers has planned a series of four lectures to be held in the fellowship hall of the church in February. The lectures are being held each Tuesday evening beginning at 7:30.

On Tuesday, February 1, the Rev. Bruce Dudley lectured on the book written by the Rev. Floyd Cherry entitled *An Introduction to Original Free Will Baptists.*

On Tuesday, February 8, the Rev. Graham Lane will lecture on the book entitled *Training for Service.*

On Tuesday, February 15, the Rev. David Charles Hansley will lecture on the book entitled *The Seven Laws of Teaching.*

On February 22, the Rev. Grady Tucker will lecture on the book entitled *Blueprint for Teaching.*

Sunday school teachers from other churches have been invited to share in this learning experience.

Macedonia Church is trying to upgrade its standard of

(Continued on Page 14)

For February 6

GOING UP TO JERUSALEM

Lesson Text: Luke 19:29-40, 45-48
Memory Verse: Luke 9:51

I. INTRODUCTION

Going up to Jerusalem provided a major theme in Jesus' ministry. Mary and Joseph "went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the [Passover] feast" (Luke 2:42), taking Jesus with them when He was twelve years old. While there He spent time in the temple; He heard and questioned the doctors of the Law; and He declared His commitment to the Heavenly Father's business. Some twenty years later, as He neared the completion of His Father's business on earth, "when the time was come that he should be rereceived up, he steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem" (Luke 9:51). A few months later that approach was entering its final stages. There was God-given business yet to be done in the city to which the tribes of Israel had gone up at feast times for more than a thousand years.

The later months of Jesus' ministry had found Him continually less among the familiar scenes and neighborly villages of Galilee, but more among the strangers east of the Jordan, and among the demanding population of Judea. Yet these same final months had seen some of Jesus' mightiest works and His most memorable teaching. Now as the time of the great Passover Feast was drawing near and the pilgrims from Galilee came to mingle with the throngs in Jerusalem, the people in both areas seemed to be more aware of Jesus' miracles than they were of His teaching.

Today's Scripture lesson introduces four groups of persons to whom each of us will relate in one way or another. *First* is Jesus, who with knowing, steadfast purpose dramatized His messiahship on His way toward dying on the Cross for our sins. *Second* is the circle of His disciples, who participated with Him and followed His direction. *Third* is the multitude of Passover pilgrims who were impressed with Jesus' mighty works and His marvelous words, but who at this point failed to follow their impressions to steadfast commitment. *Fourth* is the priestly and Pharisaical establishment, who were too thoroughly involved in things as they were to accept things as Jesus would have them to be. They tried to protect themselves by destroying Him, but succeeded only in bringing destruction to themselves and the city they professed to love.

With which of the four will you align yourself? The Christ of our lesson is worthy of our worship as Son of God, and of our imitation as Son of man. Within himself He "had it all together," and for us He can put it all together.

With the disciples we may find our place in obedient service and praise to the Lord, even when we cannot see or understand.

If we find ourselves with the fickle throng, or find ourselves resenting and opposing Him, we still have one hope. We can repent!—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. It is interesting to study the trips that Jesus made to Jerusalem in His earthly life. He made at least one when He was a baby and was carried by Mary and Joseph when He was only six years old. He made another in His childhood when He went with Mary and Joseph when He was twelve years of age. Our lesson today hinges on the last trip that He made to Jerusalem.

B. Jesus sent two of His disciples to find a colt that had never been ridden before that He might ride into Jerusalem. This was to fulfill prophecy pertaining to His messiahship. The owner of the colt was glad for Jesus to use it. Are you glad for Him to use things you have for His own purposes?

C. As Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the young colt, He was acclaimed by many as a king. However, in the great throng that acclaimed Him were a few Pharisees, who wanted Jesus to rebuke His disciples, but He refused.

D. The selling of animals for sacrificial purposes and the changing of coins for the kind used in the temple was a practice that was started in order to be of service to the people who came there to worship. However, it eventually was perverted to a commercial enterprise for the benefit of certain officials in the temple. Jesus was not opposed to serving the people; it was the perversion of purpose which He opposed.

E. This lesson today contains several important truths, but there is one that stands out above all others—the fickleness of the crowds. They acclaimed Him as king, and then in less than a week some of these same people were saying, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

"Anyone who proposes to do good must not expect people to roll stones out of his way, but must accept his load calmly if they even roll a few more upon it" (Albert Schweitzer).—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 7-11

LOVE FOR MEXICANS!

Years ago a young woman went from Dr. Bob Shuler's church as a missionary to Mexico. Her heart was aglow with God's love for the Mexicans. Wherever the word "love" occurred in 1 Corinthians 13, she interpolated: "love for the Mexicans." She read, for instance, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love for the Mexicans, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal." Her unfeigned love for the Mexicans enabled her to win many of them to the Saviour. After years of unselfish service she succumbed to illness. Hours before her death she was unconscious. As her Mexican converts gathered about her bed, the sight of their tearful faces brought her back to consciousness. Before she passed to be forever with the Lord she requested her converts not to bring flowers, but Spanish Bibles and New Testaments to the funeral. They were stacked high around her casket. Later, her converts gave them to those who did not have the Word of God.

On with the message, on with the light,
On to the regions still shrouded in night,
On to the nations which never have heard,
On with the life-giving, soul-saving Word!

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 12-16

A WORLD WITHOUT

Our wealth in Christ is forever incalculable. A missionary in China writes: "A great 'without' is written on heathenism. Men and women are *without* a Bible, *without* a Sunday and *without* righteousness. They have homes *without* peace, marriage *without* sanctity. Their young men and women are *without* ideals, the little children *without* purity, the mothers *without* wisdom or self-control. There is poverty *without* relief, sickness *without* skill or care, sorrow *without* sympathy, sin *without* remedy, death *without* hope. All this is wrapped up in the words, '*without* Christ.' This is why Christ has told us to go 'into all the world, and preach the gospel.' This is why we urge you to give and pray *without* stint, for the only answer to the world *without* is to have Christ *within.*"

What are churches for, but to make missionaries? What is education for, but to train them? What is commerce for, but to carry them? What is money for, but to send them? What is life itself for, but to fulfill the purpose of missions—the enthroning of Jesus Christ in the hearts of men?

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 17-21

MISSION-MINDED

Every church is the product of someone's missionary activity. Every church is a monument to the missionary impulse. Every church should be reminded that it has been set down in the midst of a mission field—whether in the heart of Africa or in the heart of Washington, D. C.

Every church should be reminded that it has fallen heir to the Great Commission which Christ gave to His disciples in the long ago.

In the mind of God there is no distinction between home missions and foreign missions. Wherever there is a lost soul there is mission ground.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 22-26

WE FORGET SO SOON!

There are about three billion people in the world. Many of them are without God and without hope, having never heard the name of Jesus. Many are saying, "Come and help us!" A heathen woman said to a missionary, "Tell your people how fast we are dying. Ask them if they cannot send the gospel a little faster!" An Indian woman pleaded, "Oh, tell us again who Jesus Christ is. Tell us slowly, for we forget so soon!" An Eskimo made this appeal: "Tell it to me once more for I want to be saved!" A Burmese boy pleaded: "Tell me where I can find Jesus! Tell me, oh, tell me!"

We've not only a story to tell to the nations, but also a pardon to deliver for the Saviour to the nations!

We've a pardon to give to the nations,
Which was purchased at infinite cost,
A pardon as yet undelivered,
Which leaves them eternally lost!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY, 10

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 27-30

LIKE A FLASH FROM HEAVEN

A friend asked Judson, "Was it faith or love that influenced you most in going to Burma?" Judson answered, "There was in me at that time little of either. In thinking of what did influence me, I remember a time when I was greatly discouraged. Everything looked dark. No one had gone out from our country as a foreign missionary. The way was not open. I didn't know what to do. Then, with a flash, Christ's command, 'Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature' seemed to come to my heart directly from Heaven. I determined on the spot to obey Jesus at all costs."

"I have long ago ceased to pray, 'Lord Jesus, have compassion on a lost world,' " said Dr. A. J. Gordon, "for the Lord seemed to say to me, 'I have compassion on a lost world. Now it is time for you to have compassion on it. I have given My heart. Now give your heart.' "

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 31-34

A boy told the pastor of his church that his ambition was to be a missionary. "Are you saved?" asked the pastor. "Yes," said the boy. "Then you are a missionary *now,*" said the pastor. "The field is the world, and wherever you live after you are saved, you are a missionary. Don't expect God to make you a missionary somewhere else, unless you are a missionary for Him where you are," added the wise pastor.

A missionary does not necessarily go outside of his country, his state or even his own community. A true missionary needs only to go outside himself.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Scripture Reading—Joshua 1-5

WHERE LINCOLN PUT THE EMPHASIS

A budding high-school orator delivered Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Calmly he began, "Fourscore and seven years ago." He glowed with fervency when he came to the climactic words ". . . that government *of* the people, *by* the people, and *for* the people shall not perish from the earth!" The audience applauded uproariously! An old man hobbled slowly through the crowd and said to the young orator, "You did a grand job, son! You will be interested to know that I was present at Gettysburg when Lincoln delivered that memorable speech. What an occasion it was. But, son, you didn't say it just like Lincoln did. You said, 'Government *of* the people, *by* the people, and *for* the people.' When Lincoln spoke these words—it seems I can hear him still—he said, 'Government of the *people,* by the *people,* and for the *people* shall not perish from the earth!' His emphasis and concern were on *people.* Your emphasis is on prepositions!"

It was the need of *people*—not the slavish, legalistic observance of the Sabbath—which was of paramount concern to the Saviour. The sight of hungry, shepherdless *people* moved the heart and hand of the Saviour in their behalf.

The spiritual and temporal needs of *people* are of greater concern to God than any institution, no matter how hoary and venerable the institution may be. This fact was enunciated with authority and finality in Christ's words: "The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath" (Mark 2:27). In countries where this principle is reversed, *people* became pawns of the state and are degraded to the level of pack animals!

When religious institutions lose their primary concern for the spiritual and temporal needs of *people,* Heaven weeps and the zest to carry on fades and dies. Such institutions become soulless and are a distorted image or caricature of what they ought to be!

Our major emphasis must ever be on people. We must love, respect, and have an unfeigned concern for people, wanting their highest and best welfare everywhere.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

(Continued from Page 5)

Mrs. Hubert Dickens, September 27, 1944—March 1945

Mrs. C. A. Eubanks, September 25, 1946—March 1948

Mrs. Marion Moore, September 29, 1948—March 1953

Mrs. C. A. Eubanks, September 30, 1953—March 1957

Mrs. P. L. Barrow, September 25, 1957—March 1961

Mrs. Ray Cunningham, September 27, 1961—September 1964

Mrs. C. L. Patrick, March 25, 1964—March 27, 1982

Mrs. Lois Strickland, September 25, 1982—?

Correction: Mrs. Cornelia Nobles was not the same as Mrs. J. L. Flanagan as suggested in the November 10, 1982, issue of *The Free Will Baptist.* (Thank you, Virginia Wainright.) Evidently Cornelia Nobles accompanied Mattie Smith to the Central Conference November 11, 1920, instead of the appointed delegate, Mrs. J. L. Flanagan.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 4)

minister can benefit from this two-day seminar.

Other occasional events hosted by the College during the past year include the "Conference on Church Growth," co-sponsored by the Home Missions Board and the College, at which ninety-five participants enrolled. The program for this event was outstanding and the potential impact of such an experience for the future of the denomination is immeasurable.

The College also served as host for the first annual state meeting of the Layman's League Convention at which this organization was launched. The local, district, and state organizations of the Layman's League can play a vital role in developing Free Will Baptist men for service to Christ in their local communities as well as in all phases of denominational work. Also, personnel at the College coordinated the preparation and writing of a Layman's League Program Book in 1981.

Library Resources

During the past year the Lloyd Vernon Library Collection was established for the benefit of ministers in service as well as those enrolled at the College. This collection is made possible by an endowment fund which will enable the College to add approximately seventy-five books each year. These books can be checked out at the Moye Library or through inter-library loan at most other libraries in the area.

Almost every week there are calls from pastors and churches seeking help in obtaining someone to supply the pulpit for one or more Sundays. Last year the Rev. Frank Harrison, director of Denominational Services, responded to more than one hundred such calls by arranging for a pulpit supply. In some cases another member of the College faculty or staff may be contacted personally with a request for pulpit supply or for special services. Every effort is made to respond to these requests as the schedules of College personnel will allow.

College Facilities

Mount Olive College has excellent facilities which are available for use by churches, youth groups, and denominational organizations for various meetings, weekend retreats, and other occasions. These include the Chapel, the auditorium, and Eagles Nest. Use of these facilities must be scheduled in advance by contacting the Chaplain (in the case of the Chapel) or Mr. Jim Coats, Business Manager. We look forward to the completion of College Hall which will also provide facilities for various activities.

We are confident that Mount Olive College stands on the threshold of a great future. But the purpose of the College will remain the same as it has been, that of providing Christian higher education of genuine quality. As long as it succeeds in achieving this purpose it will be able to justify its existence and at the same time maintain the goodwill and support of the Church which sponsors it.

CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 9)

such an important work because it combines the best in modern educational theory and practice with the author's own illuminating approach called "shared praxis." He describes his approach as "a group of Christians sharing in dialogue their critical reflection on present action in light of the Christian story and its vision toward the end of lived Christian faith." He goes on to unpack this in a very readable and practical manner.

I found especially helpful his critical analyses of the educational theories of John Dewey, Jean Piaget, Eric Erikson, and Alfred Whitehead, who have exerted great influence on how we think about and do education. Also, he examines the work of James Fowler, who has been engaged in groundbreaking research in the area of spiritual development and formation, especially in his recent book, *Stages of Faith.*

Christian Religious Education is a very readable and challenging book. It can be read with great benefit by any person interested in Christian education. It may very well become a classic. James Fowler says that it is "likely to be the most significant single book in the field of Christian education for the next twenty years."

(Next Week: The Lord's Supper and a story about Zacchaeus)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 7)

or Sunday to accommodate your group, and a meal can be served at your request in the College cafeteria ($3 per person on Saturday and $3.50 on Sunday). The buildings will be open and the College Hall construction site can be viewed.

The College Chaplain conducts worship services on Sunday morning at 11 a.m. for students and visitors who wish to attend. To make an appointment for your group, contact the Rev. Frank Harrison, director of church relations; phone: 658-2502 (office), or 658-9363 (home).

MACEDONIA CHURCH

(Continued from Page 10)

teaching and they believe this is the way to start. The Education Committee will serve refreshments each evening.

The books named above can be purchased at the Free Will Baptist Press or any of its bookstores.

Terry Beasock is chairman of the Committee and the Rev. Walter J. Sutton is pastor of Macedonia Church.

THE MID-YEAR SPIRITUAL LIFE BANQUET OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FWB MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

The North Carolina Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association will be having its annual Mid-Year Spiritual Life Banquet on February 18, 1983. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m. with the meal at 7 p.m. This year's banquet will be held in the Spiritual Life Building of Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church just off Highway 70 in Clayton, North Carolina. The meal will be served by the host church at a cost of $5 per person.

The program for the evening will be special guest Dr. Bob Dale speaking on the subject "Stages in a Minister's Marriage."

All those attending the banquet are asked to please pre-register before February 8 so that the host church will know how many to prepare for. Send your name and $5 for the meal to: Doug Skinner, Box 117, Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510.

The Ministerial Association wishes to invite all of our Free Will Baptist ministers to come be with us at this retreat and to join our association.

MINISTERS' WIDOWS

The Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association would like for you to come be our guest at the annual Mid-Year Spiritual Life Banquet. If you can attend, just send your name and address before February 8 to: Doug Skinner, Box 117, Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510.

The Ministerial Association is also trying to compile a list of all ministers' widows. If you know of or have any information about our ministers' widows, please send it to Doug Skinner.

At its annual business meeting in 1979, the Ministerial Association made a pledge to the Cragmont Building Fund. The pledge was for $5,000 over a 5-year span. Below is how we stand after 3½ years.

Year	Amount Given
79-80	$ 920.00
80-81	690.00
81-82	422.00
82-83 thus far	260.00
Total	$2,292.00

We need $2,708 over the next year and a half. Gifts to this pledge should be sent to: Ralph Sumner, Box 298, Oriental, North Carolina 28571. If all of our ministers could give just $2 each a month over the next 18 months, we could easily meet this goal.

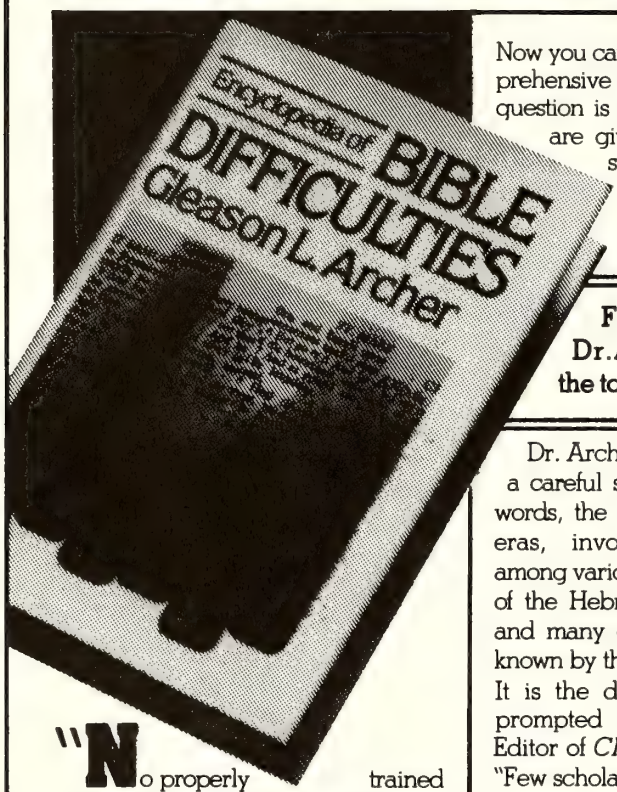
PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

I, _____, will be attending the Mid-Year Spiritual Life Banquet on February 18, and am sending $ _____ for the meal, and will have _____ guest(s) with me.

TOUGH QUESTIONS

ABOUT THE BIBLE

YOU CAN HAVE THE ANSWERS WITH GLEASON L. ARCHER'S MONUMENTAL NEW BOOK...



"No properly trained evangelical scholar has anything to fear from the hostile arguments and challenges of humanistic rationalists or detractors of any and every persuasion. There is a good and sufficient answer in Scripture itself to refute every charge that has ever been leveled against it."—Gleason L. Archer

That belief enables Gleason L. Archer to tackle the toughest questions of the Bible. And that belief is fortified by experience. For over thirty years Dr. Archer has been taking the tough questions—from seminarians, from people in pews, from thousands who avidly follow his column in Billy Graham's *Decision* magazine. Ancient Semitic language and on-site archaeological investigations have equipped Dr. Archer for such a formidible task.

Now you can have his insight in comprehensive 448 page volume. Each question is fully discussed. Answers are given in a straightforward style that is understood by all, yet the answers are detailed and complete–never superficial.

For over thirty years Dr. Archer has been taking the tough questions.

Dr. Archer's answers are based on a careful study of the meanings of words, the cultural context of Bible eras, involved interrelationships among various peoples, a knowledge of the Hebrew numbering systems, and many other details not readily known by the average Bible reader. It is the depth of this study that prompted Kenneth S. Kantzer, Editor of *Christianity Today* to say: "Few scholars are so uniquely equipped in their command of ancient languages and of the tools of biblical scholarship as is Dr. Archer. In addition to his own integrity as a scholar, he is a dedicated student of Scripture and a trustworthy guide for those who wish to understand Scripture better.

"...this book will prove immensely valuable to many earnest Christians".

His book will be a rich gold mine for those who hold to the inerrancy of Scripture and who need help in seeking to bring that conviction into harmony both with what they read in the Bible and the facts of the empirical world about them. I believe this book will prove immensely valuable to many earnest Christians and I heartily commend it to the church and all serious Bible students."

Get Answers, Pick up *Encyclopedia of Bible Difficulties* at a bookstore near you (in cloth).

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- Comprehensive bibliography for those who wish further study on a particular verse or subject.
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Gleason L. Archer, Jr., is Professor of Old Testament and Semitic Studies, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois. He holds the following degrees: B.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary, LL.B. from Suffolk University Law School, and Ph.D. from Harvard Graduate School. He served as a pastor for a number of years; was Professor of Biblical Languages and Acting Dean at Fuller Theological Seminary; and taught Arabic studies in Beirut, Lebanon. He has written several books, including *In The Shadow of The Cross, The Epistle to The Romans, The Epistle to The Hebrews,* and *Survey of Old Testament Introduction.*

Available through the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and its branch bookstores—New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston and Whiteville.

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1983,
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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Editorial

A Song for the Unsung Heroes

"The church has been seduced by the media." You know that what we eat for breakfast, use as deodorant, and wear (and drive) to work have been influenced by television performers, movie stars, and athletes. But have you noticed that the faith and practice of religious life have been affected by media visibility, too?

The testimony of a star who "found" God while on location will be reported alongside that same star's third husband's affair. John Doe, the butcher at the corner market, who finds God in a little country church in "Podunk," is "considerably" less newsworthy.

Church members expend great time, energy, and sums of money to see and hear the big stars of gospel music. They are excited when rallies feature three-hundred voice choirs. But when the nine members (that's nine when they are all there) stand to sing in that same little country church on Sunday morning, all anyone notices are the two people who sing off-key. Are their efforts any less noble, especially when those who could sing in the choir will not?

Why does the little brown church in the wildwood seem so little, so very brown, and so "wild"' to us? It is because we think bigger is better and spectacular is superior? Is it because dramatic religious experiences "play" better on television? Have we forgotten that God is no respecter of persons? Do we not remember that we go to church to worship?

It is time that we remember and praise the "little" people, the small taskmasters, the foot soldiers in God's mighty army. Many Christians work in such a way that no one ever realizes all they do—until they are not there to do that work anymore. Just as newspaper boys and girls are nonentities until our papers are not delivered, and mothers are often taken for granted until dinner is not prepared "on time," churches are ignored until they are no longer there and decadence prevails within a community. Christians forget to sing songs of praise—to God and to those unsung heroes.

Hence it is time we join together and sing. There should be a paean sung to the members of boards and committees, those groups which the church can scarcely live without. There needs to be praise, too, for the courageous souls, those "Daniels" and "Danielles," who wrestle young lions in Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, and youth meetings. Parents should join in a hymn of thanksgiving for those special saints who take turns in the nursery and "suffer little children" whenever they come. We need to offer a few kind words for sermons, too, even bad ones—they help us appreciate the really good ones when they come along. Also, "doorkeepers" cannot be overlooked; they are the men and women who think of the church as a building, leaving others free to see it as a movement.

The Apostle Paul wrote that "we have this treasure in earthly vessels." We thank God for the treasure and sing praises, also, for the vessels.

A MAN BORN BLIND

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent). He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing (John 9:6, 7.)

Here was a man that was blind from his birth. He had never been able to see things as you and I have. His disciples asked why this man was blind. Was it because of something that this man had done to cause this? Was it because of something that his parents had done? They believed that this kind of thing came only because someone had sinned. This man was born blind, so he could not have sinned before he was born, could he? Could he have been punished for a sin he would commit later? Or was he being punished for a sin he would commit later? Or for his parents' sin?

But Jesus told His disciples that none of these things had caused the man to be blind. This does not mean that this man and his parents had lived a sinless life, but that they had not committed any sin that had caused the blindness. Jesus told them that it was so that the works of God should be made manifest in him. Bad as the blindness was, it would serve a good purpose. It would provide an opportunity for God's good work to be shown. We should take this to mean that God had not caused the blindness for that purpose. The cure was God's work; the blindness was not.

Suddenly this man had been enriched. From birth he had been blind, but Christ gave him vision. Now when the man saw Jesus with his newfound vision, he worshipped Him. It is better to be born blind and later be given sight, than to be born seeing but never recognize the Saviour.

Jesus accomplished so much because He had the power and concern to help those who were in need. The physical miracle of bringing sight to the blind man was good, but there was something better. Jesus literally called the man into partnership with God, ". . . that the works of God should be made manifest in him." All could see the miracle, even though not all paid full attention to Christ's message. The works of Jesus at times generated more understanding than His words did. We are so slow to hear at times. But, remember, His works prove His words to be true. God was the One that sent Jesus, and one of God's worker was giving sight to the blind.

After the clay had been put on the blind man's eyes, he was told to go wash in the pool of Siloam. This pool was in the valley south of the temple. Perhaps the blind man had visited the pool before, but this time was to be different. Before, he would leave the pool the same way that he came, blind. Now we know that there was no healing virtue in the waters of this pool. He was healed because he obeyed the words of Christ.

The Pharisees had attempted to destroy the character of Jesus, saying, "This man is not of God because he keepeth not the Sabbath day." The healed man became a direct witness: "One thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see." How can you get around testimony like this? Yet the Pharisees tried to do just that through abusing and even ejecting him from the synagogue.

But, Jesus came to his rescue and revealed Himself to the man. For the first time, the man actually looked upon the face of Jesus. He worshipped Jesus. True worship always possesses such a base. Worship is the abiding proof of belief. Those who are willfully blind to our Lord are under serious indictment. The blind man was healed on the day of worship. Is not the Lord's day a time of sacred memory, when we recall especially the healing from our sins through the blood of Christ?

SWORD WITHOUT A HANDLE

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

Except for one piece of equipment, all the materiel stockpiled in God's armory and awaiting our requisition is defensive in nature. Belt, breastplate, foot covering, shield, helmet are all designed to offer protection from attacks of the enemy.

The one exception: ". . . the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God" (Ephesians 6:17). A sword is for offensive action. For *laying to.*

It is not always cowardly to employ defensive tactics when you are being assailed by fiery darts. There are times when it is more prudent to hunker down under the Christian's armor and hang in through patience and prayer. That's the heroism of lasting. But there are also times when it is necessary to go on the offensive, to unscabbard the double-edged sword.

When that time comes, certain facts about swords ought to be remembered.

In some situations, a sword can look attractive indeed. When you've absorbed blow after unreturned blow, taken it on the chin or wherever, been patient, long-suffering, sweet and kind as a Christian ought to be, the thought of unsheathing the sword and letting somebody have it right between the spiritual ribs can be terribly appealing. I know. Furthermore, it doesn't appear to be very dangerous, especially when you can lunge out from a well-padded position inside all that protective armor.

In fact, going after some gross sinner or some exasperating saint can be enormously satisfying to the flesh. It is frequently done with gusto, made easier because the wounds inflicted are emotional and spiritual instead of physical. The lacerations are on the heart, not on the body. Tears flow instead of blood. Discouragement, not death, results.

So we sometimes use the Word of God and the words of God as swords, fearlessly and gleefully. The choice of blade and the style of handling may vary, but most of us are clearly out for blood. Some employ the broadsword approach that requires both hands. Lifted high, it is brought down with a mighty blow that cleaves asunder, splits, dismembers —publicly, indiscriminately. At the other end of the scale is the stiletto style, front or back, requiring closer, more private, almost surreptitious contact, but no less deadly. In between is a whole range of swords and recognizable techniques of spiritual swordsmanship.

So a word of caution seems to be in order. Those who delight in aggressive Christian swordplay need to remember that the sword of the Spirit has a critical difference from other swords. Your usual, everyday sword has at least three distinct parts to it: blade, guard and handle or hilt. The blade has a cutting edge along its length and may be two-edged. The handle provides a safe, smooth grip. The guard prevents your hand from sliding accidentally down onto the cutting edge when you're thrusting the blade into someone's vitals.

Lane Adams, a friend of mine, once pointed out to me that the sword of the Spirit has only one part: blade. All blade. No exempt handhold for the wielder. Who picks up this sword to use as a weapon is as subject to its judgment, its sharp discernment, as the one to whom it is pointed. So swordsman, beware! You can't use it on others without at the same time using it on yourself.

This single offensive weapon in the Christian's inventory needs to be handled carefully, gently, even gingerly. Unless your hands are covered with tough, unfeeling calluses, grasping the sword barehanded will mean blood on your own fingers—your own motives weighed, your own actions judged. And anyone who has become calloused in the use of the Word of God is in a dangerous spiritual condition.

Nothing about the sword of the Spirit allows me the reckless impunity of the handle while it gives you the hazard of the blade, or vice versa. "God will judge you in the same way you judge others," the Bible says, "and he will apply to you the same rules you apply to others" (Matthew 7:2, TEV).

That ought to make us a little slower to reach for the sword, a little more meticulous in its use. "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intent of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12). *My* heart, too. *My* joints and marrow. *My soul and spirit.*

(Continued on Page 9)

Study Course to Be Held At Sandy Plain Church

A one-night study course will be held on February 24 at Sandy Plain Church, located on Route 241, between Pink Hill and Beulaville. The topic of the meeting will be "Prayer." The speaker for the occasion will be Miss Rudene Kennedy. The public is invited. It will also count as one of the requirements for an A-1 auxiliary.

Lee's Chapel AFC Groups Hold Meetings

The AFC group of Lee's Chapel Church, Dunn, held its first yearly meeting in the fellowship hall on January 17.

Due to the large number of young people, they were divided into three groups—AFC I, led by Mrs. Charlotte Jackson; AFC II, led by Mrs. Sheila Jackson; and AFC III, with Mrs. Phyllis Jackson, the leader.

New officers of the AFC I group elected that night were Robert Sills, president; Charlie Norris, vice president; and Shannon Eason, secretary. Mrs. Jackson will serve as treasurer.

A brief outline of the programs for the year was given by the leader. The first study centered on the first five books of the Bible and special events that occurred in each one.

Members present with Mrs. Jackson and the officers were Kristi Godwin, Michael Elmore, Anda Byrd, Michelle Jackson, Chris Godwin, and Ken Jackson.

A meeting of the AFC II group was also held that night. The lesson was on the "Roots of Religion," the first five books in the Old Testament. They sang a song to help learn the books. In attendance were Scott Lucas, Johnny Williford, Brian Jackson, Anthony Branch, Jason Elmore, Trent Jernigan, Steven Godwin, Kim Godwin, and the leader, Mrs. Jackson.

"God Watches Over Jesus" was the lesson study for the AFC III group, composed of younger children in the church. After a study on the birth of Christ, pictures of Baby Jesus were colored and displayed on the wall. Each child made a star to take home during craft time.

The leader, Mrs. Jackson, was assisted by Mrs. Cynthia Eason and Mrs. Diane Young.

Children present were Lavelle Jackson, Melisha Kollmar, Andrea Eason, Jamie Tyndall, Paul Young, Tonya Jackson, Janelle Norris, Neil McLamb and Kellie Godwin.

Alyne Elmore Circle Installs New Officers

New officers were inducted at the January 18 meeting of the Alyne Elmore Circle of Lee's Chapel Church, Dunn.

The outgoing chairman, Charlotte Jackson, charged each new officer to serve her respective office for "the glorification of the Lord and to set examples with their lives for all other ladies in the church and community."

Leaders for this year are Emily Hefner, chairman; Pam Spell, co-chairman; Libby Stewart, secretary; and Sherry Matthews, treasurer.

The business session opened with a short devotion from Ephesians by the new chairman.

Reports from the new officers were given. Plans were made to visit the Golden Years Rest Home in Falcon on February 15 to help the residents celebrate Valentine's Day as well as to honor the church's oldest member, Mrs. Viola Bass, on her 91st birthday with a party.

Hostesses for the monthly meetings were selected and a vote taken to have the meetings on the third Tuesday night, except in the month of December.

The meeting was held in the fellowship hall. In attendance were Nancy Kollmar, Marguerite Lockamy, Pam Spell, Glenda Tew, Diane Young, Judy Jackson, Terry Godwin, Emily Hefner, Penny Lucas, Patsy Eason, Sheila Jackson, Peggy Branch, Delores Norris, Phyllis Godwin, Phyllis Jackson, Brenda Jackson, Libby Stewart, Sherry Matthews, Charlotte Jackson, Mrs. Alyne Elmore, the circle's namesake, Agnes Kirby, the sponsor, and Debbie Chestnut, a guest.

Cape Fear District Churches to Have Meeting

There will be a meeting for all youth sponsors and the presidents of church youth groups of the Cape Fear District Churches. The meeting will be held at Shady Grove Church near Newton Grove, on February 19, 1983, at 10 a.m. Youth rally business will be discussed.

"Betty and the Son Rise Singers" to Sing

A worship service of gospel music will be presented on Sunday, February 13, at 7:30 p.m., at King's Cross Roads Church, Route 1, Fountain. "Betty and the Son Rise Singers," from Bath, will be the guest singers.

The pastor of King's Cross Roads Church, the Rev. Bruce Jones, and the congregation cordially invite everyone to join them in this service.

The battle raged, the cannons roared—
I stood to see the fight—
And, lo, behold, I saw the Lord,
'Twas He who fought and won the day—
'Twas He who gave the word:
"Stand still, my child, stand still, I say,"
And yet another word I heard,
'Twas only this: "Obey."
—Selected

NEW CREATIONS ON TOUR

The New Creations from Mount Olive College visit churches and youth groups to share their Christian faith through gospel music and testimony. Members of the 1982-83 team are (left to right): (seated) Alicia Heath, Goldsboro; Sherry Forrest, Ayden; Sherry Mitchell, Bridgeton; Kim Doughtry, Manteo; (standing) Amelia Massengill, Four Oaks; Larry Blankenship, Pineville, West Virginia; Bonnie Jo Ford, Arapahoe; Allen Howell, Wilson; Caroline Castelloe, Director; Oliver Godwin, Dunn; Julie Morris, Manteo; Charles (Bucky) Richardson, New Bern.

NEW CREATIONS' SCHEDULE
Spring Semester, 1982

Date	Time	Place
February 13	11 a.m.	Spring Hope Free Will Baptist (Bridgeton)
	7 p.m.	Shady Grove Free Will Baptist (Spivey's Corner)
February 20	11 a.m.	Free Union Free Will Baptist (Spring Hope)
February 27	11 a.m.	Oak Grove Free Will Baptist (Elm City)
	7 p.m.	First Free Will Baptist, Smithfield
March 6	11 a.m.	Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist (Vanceboro)
	7 p.m.	Unity Free Will Baptist (Wilson)
March 19	9:30 a.m.	Eastern District Youth Convention
		Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist
March 20	11 a.m.	Friendship Free Will Baptist (Middlesex)
	7 p.m.	Faith Free Will Baptist (Four Oaks)
March 27	11 a.m.	Rose Hill Free Will Baptist (Pitt County)
	6 p.m.	Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist (Bear Grass)
April 10	11 a.m.	Heritage Free Will Baptist (Charlotte)
April 17	11 a.m.	Kenly Free Will Baptist (Kenly)
	7 p.m.	Spring Hill Free Will Baptist (Goldsboro)
April 24	11 a.m.	Bethany United Methodist Church (Wanchese)
	7 p.m.	Assembly of God of Manteo (Manteo)
May 9-16		Georgia and Florida

BUNDY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

(In memory of Samuel David Bundy, his parents, J. T. and Huldah J. Bundy, and in honor of his wife, Betty Spencer Bundy.)

Samuel (Sam) David Bundy
July 19, 1906—January 19, 1983

The late Samuel David Bundy, a trustee of Mount Olive College, died January 19, 1983. He had been a member of the Board since 1972 and was chairman of the Academic Affairs Committee.

A native of Farmville, North Carolina, Bundy devoted forty-two years to public education. He retired in 1970 as principal of the Sam D. Bundy School, which was named for him. That same year he was elected to the North Carolina General Assembly where he was serving as a representative of Pitt and Greene Counties at the time of his death.

His parents, the late J. T. and Huldah J. Bundy, were leading members of Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville. In 1971 his mother established a student-aid fund at Mount Olive College, and through the years Mr. Bundy added to the fund. He also included in his will a provision for the College, and the College has elected to designate his bequest to the Bundy Fund. A number of memorial gifts have likewise been added to the fund.

The Bundy Scholarship Endowment currently has assets in excess of $6,000, and it will continue to grow as additional memorial gifts are received. The principal of the Fund is invested and each year it will provide a scholarship(s) for a student(s) enrolled at Mount Olive College.

Bundy Scholarship Endowment

These scholarships will be a living tribute to the Bundy Family and will perpetuate their contribution to education. Mrs. Bundy, the former Betty Spencer, like her late husband, is also a retired teacher, and their two sons are also in education. James Henry Bundy is Registrar at North Carolina State University and Samuel David Bundy Jr. is Associate Director for the Textbooks Division of the North Carolina Department of Education.

WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT AN EDUCATION AT MOC?

A Christian education is one that nourishes the spirit as well as the mind, and Mount Olive College's student life program adds that dimension to the curriculum. In addition to taking formal courses in religion, students attend convocations, worship services, study groups, and other activities planned by the College Chaplain. Attendance at weekly chapel services is required, and students are encouraged to participate in one or more of the following organizations which provide them with opportunities for spiritual growth.

The New Creations: Students who want to share their faith with others through an outreach program of music and testimonials can audition for the New Creations. Auditions are held in the fall and spring on High School Days, and a personal interview is part of the selection process.

The Free Will Baptist Fellowship: An organization which provides Free Will Baptist students with opportunities for Christian fellowship, service, and worship. Special emphasis is placed on the development of leadership ability in a church-related setting.

Kappa Chi Fraternity: An organization of students preparing for the ministry or other church-related vocations. The main objective of the fraternity is to provide opportunities for personal and religious development, fellowship, and practical experience for members as they pursue academic preparation for their work.

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes: An organization which confronts athletes with the challenge and adventure of following Christ, participating in His church, and serving Him through their vocations.

The Baptist Student Union: An organization open to students of all denominations who wish to be involved in matters of concern to the Christian community.

MOC CHAPLAIN TO SPEAK

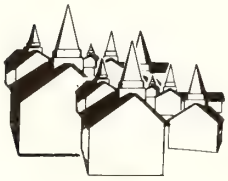
The Rev. Frank Harrison

The Rev. Frank Harrison, chaplain at Mount Olive College, will be guest speaker at Rose of Sharon Church in Martin County on Sunday, February 13, at 11 a.m. Mr. Harrison is returning to his home church to speak at the 48th anniversary of the founding of the church's Sunday school.

(Continued on Page 15)

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR WORLD EVANGELISM, THE LOCAL CHURCH OR THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS?

The church is assigned the task of world evangelism; that means each church member is responsible. The evidence for this is crystal clear from the following Scriptures. (Please take time to read them.) Matthew 24:3, 14; 28:18-20; Mark 13:4, 10; 16:15, 16; Luke 24:44-49; John 17:18; 20:21; Acts 1:8; 13:47; 15:14, 15; Romans 1:14; 10:14, 15;15:20, 21; 2 Corinthians 10:15, 16; Revelation 5:9; 7:9; etc.



The Board of Foreign Missions is only an intermediary between the local church and the world outside the United States. Even though each local church, each Christian is assigned the task of world evangelism, it would be virtually impossible for each local church to mount an effective world outreach program alone; therefore, there is the need for the intermediary agency, the Board of Foreign Missions, to coordinate an effective program for all the local churches.

The lifeline of the Board of Foreign Missions is tied directly to each local church, and is only as strong as the support of the local church. The Board of Foreign Missions does not stand alone. It is not separate from the church, but it is the combined efforts of each local church working together to reach the lost around the world.

The Board of Foreign Missions depends on the local church for:

1. Board members
2. For administrative personnel
3. For financial support
4. For prayer support
5. For missionaries

So you see if you, the local church, do not meet the above necessities, the program will die. For the local church is the life of Foreign Missions. To you has been assigned the task of world evangelism.

I challenge you to evaluate yourself and your church and honestly answer the following questions: **Is Foreign Missions alive and progressive because of what you and your church are doing; or if you look at your response to this your program, would it be extremely sickly; or already dead? THINK ABOUT IT!**

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE FOREIGN MISSIONS DIRECTOR CONCERNING MEXICAN MISSIONS

QUESTION: How is the work in Mexico progressing without a missionary?

ANSWER: Amazingly well. The pastors have bound together, taken the reins of leadership and are doing an excellent job. Each church sponsors one or more mission points.

QUESTION: Who is heading up the work there?

ANSWER: The Rev. Antonio Escobar. He is the pastor of the Piedras Negras Free Will Baptist Church. He is a very capable man, who has the confidence of the pastors and congregations. The Board has appointed him acting Field Director.

QUESTION: How does the Board of Foreign Missions help the work in Mexico?

ANSWER: We provide pastor assistance. (This ranges from $50 a month to $135 a month.) We also provide loans for buildings. The churches borrow from this fund, build their buildings and then pay it back over a period of time. This has worked very well. The Board also provides literature, Bibles, and teaching aids. We also provide counsel and direction for the work.

QUESTION: Why don't we send a missionary into Mexico?

ANSWER: Because the Mexican government will not allow it. Some missions send missionaries in on a visitor's visa, which is good for six months, but the risks are too great and we feel it is wrong to do this. This is why our missionaries to Mexico have to live on the Texas-Mexico border.

QUESTION: Is the Bible Institute in Texas still operating?

ANSWER: The Bible Institute in Texas ceased operation in the late 70's. I do not know the exact time of closing.

QUESTION: Why did it close?

ANSWER: I believe it was because it became more and more difficult to bring the Mexican pastors across the border into the United States. Some pastors could not get a permit to cross. For a Bible School to be effective it needs to be in Mexico where it can attract young people.

QUESTION: What has happened to the property and buildings in Texas?

ANSWER: All the mobile classrooms have been sold

and the money returned to the Foreign Missions treasury. The main house, which served as a missionary home until July, 1982, and the other permanent buildings are still there.

QUESTION: What is planned for the property?

ANSWER: The Board is in the process of placing this on the market for sale.

QUESTION: Why not use it for the next missionary, if or when one goes there to work?

ANSWER: Because it is in a very poor location. It is 20 miles one way from a border crossing. This means a lot of unnecessary travel.

QUESTION: Where will a missionary live?

ANSWER: The Board will either rent or buy a house in Eagle Pass. This town is located at a border crossing from which all of our churches in Mexico can be reached.

QUESTION: Are there plans for another Bible Institute?

ANSWER: This is under study. We hope to establish one in Piedras Negros. This is just across the border from Eagle Pass, but it is in Mexico. The church there has sufficient property for this project.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT ANY PHASE OF THE FOREIGN MISSIONS WORK, PLEASE WRITE OR CALL. HAROLD JONES, DIRECTOR, ADDRESS: P.O. Box 38, AYDEN, N.C. 28513 Phone: 746-4963. REMEMBER, THIS IS YOUR PROGRAM.

Cragmont

GIFTS FROM CHURCHES

Listed below are the churches who gave $1,000 or more to Cragmont Assembly during 1982. Several of these churches raised the money through special projects. We thank these churches for their great and continuing support.

Daniels Chapel
Friendship (Central)
Juniper Chapel
King's Cross Roads
Little Rock
Pleasant Grove
Reedy Branch
Shady Grove
Sherron Acres
Spring Branch
Spring Hill
Stancil's Chapel
Stoney Creek
Tarboro, First
Wilson, First

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

Let me share with you a story you might like to use for the upcoming lesson on the Lord's Supper (Luke 22:1-20). Although it by no means exhausts the full meaning of the Lord's Supper, it can help to illustrate why we observe it and its importance for the Christian life.

There is a legend about Zacchaeus which says that when he was older and still living in Jericho, he would leave his house every morning at dawn. After a while he returned in a calm and entirely happy frame of mind. This routine never varied, and the result never failed. His wife wondered about it, and one day followed him without him knowing about it. She saw him go straight to the sycamore tree in which he sat the first day he saw the Lord. Once there he took a jar, filled it with water, and carried it to the tree. After working the soil and pulling out a few weeds, he watered the roots of that tree. Then he went back home and from home went out to serve both God and man.

This legend of Zacchaeus reveals that he worked hard to keep certain precious memories and experiences alive and present. He used a simple ceremony to strengthen his life before going out to strengthen other lives. The result was that it made a difference in his own attitude, his relationships, and in his daily life.

The taking of the bread and cup in remembrance of Jesus, the Lord's Supper, is much like that experience of Zacchaeus. It is our opportunity to renew certain precious memories and experiences. It is a simple ceremony which has the effect of strengthening our lives in order that we might strengthen others. It makes a difference, if we allow it, in our spiritual lives, our relationships, and in every part of our daily life.

(**Next Week:** Some great resources for youth ministry)

SWORD WITHOUT A HANDLE

(Continued from Page 4)

Don't try to craft a handle for this sword and tape it in place. I have—and can show you the scars as proof that it doesn't work. God is no respecter of persons, or of fingers. He offers no favored-person or favored-nation status. He doesn't say, "This commandment, this precept, this stewardship applies to those other people, but not to you." He doesn't say, "You were meant to be at the head of the line." There are no "firsts in the kingdom" when it comes to hearing and obeying the Word of God.

Sword of the Spirit.
Sword without a handle.
Use with care and gentleness.
It cuts both ways.

Stan Mooneyham

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SCHEDULE OF REVENUE FROM CHURCHES
Six Months Ended December 31, 1982

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Belhaven	$ 125
Corinth	
Free Union	60
Gum Neck	100
Hickory Chapel	1,277
Malachi's Chapel	
Mount Tabor	305
Mount Zion	315
Auxiliary Convention	20
District Convention	79
Fifth Sunday Singing	100
Union Meeting	51
Plymouth, First	350
Shiloh	18
Sidney	136
Sound Side	369
St. Paul	350
Trinity	240
Union Chapel	387
Cape Colony Mission	16
Piney Grove	
Malachi's Chapel Sunbeam B	100
Malachi's Chapel Sunday School	479
Mount Tabor Sunday School	460
Sound Side Auxiliary	100
Union Chapel Layman's League	522
Hickory Chapel Auxiliary	90
Total Albemarle Conference	$ 6,055

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel	$ 520
Casey's Chapel	100
Daly's Chapel	340
Goldsboro, First	920
Hopewell	230
Johnston Union	270
Lee's Chapel	2,275
Auxiliary Convention	56
Oak Grove	810
Palmer Memorial	468
Pleasant Grove	715
Robert's Grove	475
Riverside	325
St. Mary's Grove	
Shady Grove	555
Smithfield, First	770
Tee's Chapel	1,161
Victory Mission	135
Wooten's Chapel	50
Yelverton's Grove	264
Catalpa	
Eastwood Chapel	307
Faith	200
Lanwood Chapel	25
Mount Olive	40
Powhatan	150
Saint Paul	425
Smyrna	100
Stephen's Chapel	200
West Clinton	
Lee's Chapel Sunday School	526
Oak Grove Youth Adult Class	100
Oak Grove Sunday School	500
Cape Fear Youth Rally	100
Johnston Union Sunday School	78
Shady Grove Auxiliary	172
Bethel Sunday School	111
Total Cape Fear Conference	$13,661

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	$ 720
Ayden	525
Bethany	285
Black Jack (Pitt)	1,482
Cedar Grove	250
Community	79
Daniels Chapel	745
Dilda's Grove	50
Edgewood	251
Elm Grove	760
Free Union	1,166
Friendship	614
Gum Swamp	1,211
Greenville, First	1,020
Grimsley	220
Harrell's Chapel	615
Hickory Grove	230
Howell Swamp	370
Hugo	605
Hull Road	439
King's Cross Roads	2,953
La Grange	45
Little Creek	245
Marlboro	734
Union Number 2	32
Auxiliary Convention	34
Ormondsville	20
Otter's Creek	247
Owen's Chapel	131
Peace	190
Piney Grove (Pitt)	48
Reedy Branch	958
Roanoke Rapids, First	20
Rocky Mount, First	295
Rose Hill	571
Rose of Sharon	10
Saratoga	441
Spring Branch	820
Sweet Gum Grove	1,196
Tarboro, First	575
Walnut Creek	420
Watery Branch	40
Williamston, First	538
Winterville	717
Maury	100
Piney Grove (Beaufort)	
Union Number 4	137
King's Cross Roads Auxiliary	450
Reedy Branch Sunday School	204
Edgewood Auxiliary	15
Owens Chapel Auxiliary	50
Ormondsville Sunday School	41
Black Jack Sunday School	220
Otter's Creek Sunday School	126
Little Creek Sunday School	225
Friendship Sunday School	305
Greenville, First, Auxiliary	40
Dilda's Grove Sunday School	543
King's Cross Roads Youth	55
Elm Grove Auxiliary	100
Aspen Grove Sunday School	545
Winterville Sunday School	505
King's Cross Roads Sunday School	82
Hickory Grove Sunday School	550
Piney Grove Sunday School	254
Grimsley Auxiliary	50
Rose Hill Sunday School	100
Rose of Sharon Auxiliary	100
Cedar Grove Auxiliary	50
Ayden, Janice H. Overman Auxiliary	20
Winterville Auxiliary	59
Pleasant Hill Auxiliary	50
Spring Branch Sunday School	250
Gum Swamp Auxiliary	16
Total Central Conference	$28,173

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	$ 750
Arapahoe	703
Bethel	1,150
Bethlehem	600
Beaufort Mission	750
Bridgeton	507
British Chapel	250
Core Point Chapel	88
Cabin	200
Christian Chapel	419
Crab Point	90
Croatan	300
Deep Run	507
Dublin Grove	442
Edwards Chapel	392
Ephesus	187
Friendship	261
Gethsemane	1,272
Core Creek	500
Gray Branch	620
Hillsberry	60
Holly Springs	993
Indian Springs	377
Jackson Heights	340
Juniper Chapel	520
Kinston, First	603
Lanier's Chapel	215
Long Ridge	
May's Chapel	200
Memorial	100
Moseley's Creek	270
Mount Pleasant	349
Mount Zion (Pamlico)	175
Mount Zion (Onslow)	100
Union Number 5	135
Fifth Sunday School Convention	78
Union Number 3	182
New Bethlehem	262
New Haven	498
Northeast	88
Oak Grove	200
Oriental	25
Otway	41
Pearsall Chapel	603
Pilgrim's Home	
Pilgrims Rest	100
Piney Grove	
Reunion Chapel	50
Rock of Zion	240
Rooty Branch	365
Sarecta	670
Sandy Plain	215
Smith's New Home	320
Sneads Ferry	200
Smyrna	750
Snow Hill	730
Sound View	190
Spring Hope	
St. Mary's	683
Trent	140

Vanceboro, First	25
Verona	152
Wardens Grove	328
Warsaw, First	267
Westside	577
Whaley's Chapel	610
White Hill	45
White Oak Grove	120
Wilmington, First	
Woodrow, First	31
Angola	
Daly's Chapel	
Davis	500
Faith	170
Faith Mission (Brunswick)	80
Faith Mission (Craven)	
Folkstone	20
Free Union	65
Grants Chapel	
Macedonia	650
Russell's Creek	100
Saints Delight	460
Welcome Home	250
White Oak	30
Wintergreen	520
Beulaville	1,220
Auxiliary Convention	465
Carteret County Sunday School Convention	50
Sunday School Convention	15
Bethel Auxiliary	205
Moseley's Creek League	100
Kinston Auxiliary	10
Rock of Zion Auxiliary	200
Grant's Chapel Auxiliary	200
Antioch Auxiliary	50
Core Creek Sunday School	303
Northeast Sunday School	157
Croatan Auxiliary	210
Deep Run Sunday School	287
Bridgeton Auxiliary	50
Dublin Grove Auxiliary	133
New Haven Sunday School	175
Reunion Chapel Auxiliary	15
Juniper Chapel Sunday School	59
Bethlehem Auxiliary	10
Crab Point Auxiliary	30
Antioch Apostle Sunday School	250
Kinston Everready Sunday School	125
May's Chapel Auxiliary	228
Friendship Sunday School	52
Faith Auxiliary	75
New Haven Auxiliary	50
Total Eastern Conference	$30,789

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Beaverdam	$ 2,050
Cypress Creek	
Emerson	
Union Number 1	118
Pee Dee Association	225
Oak Grove	1,502
White Oak	526
Ash	20
Little Bethel	40
Macedonia	
Mission Valley	
Mount Beulah	
Mount Calvary	100
Mount Olive	
Pine Level	
Pireway	
Pleasant Meadow	25
Thomasboro	300
Union Number 2	200
Cypress Creek Sunday School	282
Total Pee Dee Conference	$ 5,389

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Bethany	$ 50
Community	
East Rockingham	778
Heritage Mission	241
High Point	288
Highland Pines	786
Holy Cross	265
Hopewell	
Mount Olive	100
Calvary	
Christ	
Christian Faith	
Gospel Light	
House of Prayer	100
Love Gospel	100
Advance Mission	13
Sweet Haven	50
Faith	
Cathedral	140
High Point Auxiliary	200
Miscellaneous Card	20
Conference	100
Total Piedmont Conference	$ 3,232

ROCKFISH CONFERENCE

Mount Moriah	$ 150
Hickory Grove	
Mount Calvary	
Total Rockfish Conference	$ 150

TOE RIVER CONFERENCE

Roaring Creek	$ 221
Coxe's Creek	170
Curtis Creek	100
Poplar Church	78
Total Toe River Conference	$ 569

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Agape Mission	$ 100
Barnes Hill	1,000
Black Jack Grove	1,148
Branch Chapel	
Calvary	336
Elwood Lane	121
Everett Chapel	1,842
Fellowship	25
Flood's Chapel	150
Free Spirit Mission	997
Fremont	
Free Union	520
Friendship	600
Holly Springs	
Kenly, First	220
Little Rock	1,255
Marsh Swamp	1,807
Memorial Chapel	70
Micro	280
Milbournie	1,060
Mount Zion	124
Union Number 1	275
Union Number 2	30
First Western Sunday School Convention	87
Youth Fellowship	150
New Sandy Hill	411
People's Chapel	327
Pine Level, First	30
Pleasant Grove	1,912
Piney Grove	345
Pleasant Hill	180
Pleasant Plain	300
Rains Cross Roads	370
Rock Springs	54
Rosebud	260
Selma	50
Sherron Acres	1,125
Spring Hill	890
St. Mary's	988
Stancil's Chapel	615
Stoney Creek	2,150
Stoney Hill	800
Trinity	6,750
Union Chapel	212
Union Grove	189
Unity (Durham)	62
Unity	225
Watson's Grove	135
Wilson, First	3,296
Durham, First	75
Living Waters	200
Mount Zion (Wilson)	155
Oak Grove	353
Gethsemane	
Mount Zion Sunday School (Nash)	214
Rosebud Auxiliary	20
St. Mary's Sunday School	106
Pine Level, First, Philea	40
Little Rock Auxiliary	30
Pleasant Grove Auxiliary	50
Fremont Layman's League	25
Kenly Auxiliary	30
New Sandy Hill Sunday School	150
Stancil's Chapel Sunday School	298
Union Grove Auxiliary	18
Union Grove Sunday School	250
Kenly Sunday School	10
Stony Hill Auxiliary	100
Flood's Chapel Auxiliary	8
Fremont Sunday School	100
Pine Level Sunday School	95
Piney Grove Sunday School	25
New Sandy Hill Auxiliary	76
Total Western Conference	$36,309

NOTE OF THANKS

The commemoration of Christ's birth was made even more meaningful to me in 1982 because of the spirit of His love that was expressed to me by your beautiful cards, letters, and gifts of love.

I wish to thank each church and auxiliary in North Carolina, Georgia, and Texas for every prayer, thought, and kindness shown.

Pray for me that I may live closer to God than ever before.

May God bless all of you for all of your goodness and love in Him.

Mrs. E. C. Morris

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Scripture Reading—Joshua 6-9

IS IT NOTHING TO YOU?

Sigismund Goetze's great painting, "Despised and Rejected of Men" was first displayed in the British Royal Academy in 1904. The painting vividly portrays Christ crowned with thorns and dying in anguish upon His Cross. The surging, restless crowd is seen passing by, seemingly heedless of the Sufferer's presence. All segments of human society pass by—unchallenged, unconcerned. Only one person of the milling crowd has her face turned toward the abandoned Figure on the Cross—a nurse on her way to minister to suffering ones. For a moment she pauses and looks reverently at the awesome scene!

What a representation this is of Christ today—neglected, unrecognized, despised, dishonored! "Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by?"

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Scripture Reading—Joshua 10-13

THEY FOLLOW ME

Near twilight I was strolling with a GI friend in the environs of Casablanca, North Africa. Lifting our eyes toward the horizon, we saw a great billowing cloud of dust. As it neared us, we could vaguely discern the shadowy forms of sheep. A moment later we saw thousands of sheep making their way to the watering troughs. What a sight it was to see all those sheep plunge their heads into the sparkling, refreshing waters! Having slaked their thirst, the sheep stood lazily and contentedly. Then some half-dozen bronzed shepherds walked off in different directions. One, in a trilling, singsong way uttered a call which was totally unintelligible to me, but not to a sizeable number of those mixed-up sheep. Instantly they perked up their ears and ran toward their shepherd! The other shepherds did as the first one had done, until all the sheep had disentangled themselves from the other sheep, and had rallied to the call of their respective shepherds.

How thrilled I was to see that never-to-be-forgotten sight! Before my eyes had been portrayed the meaning of the words spoken by the Good Shepherd.

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. They know not the voice of strangers.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Scripture Reading—Joshua 14-18

PLOWING CROOKED FURROWS

During my college days at Mercer University, an aged Baptist minister greatly influenced my life. It was this minister who challenged me to memorize much of God's Word. This he himself had done. I learned another lesson from his life. When he was a young man, he felt that God had called him to go to a foreign field. He prepared himself and, in time, entered the field of service. I do not know why he became disobedient "unto the heavenly vision" but before long he returned to the homeland. Thereafter his life was cast in the shallows. He was seemingly a misfit everywhere. He was unsought, unwanted, and unrecognized. He had put his hands to the plow and looked back, and thereafter he plowed a crooked furrow!

His life, in which God's first and best plan was thwarted, is an apt illustration of the warning words of the Apostle Paul, "Lest . . . when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway," or "disapproved" (1 Corinthians 9:27).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Scripture Reading—Joshua 19-22

I HAVE MISSED GOD'S BEST!

"I have enjoyed the meetings this week, but I am sorry I attended them," said a well-to-do businessman to a minister. "Why?" asked the astonished minister. "Here's why. These meetings have reminded me afresh that I have missed God's best for my life. I was called to Africa. I intended to answer God's call. I began to earn money for my passage and outfit. I earned more and more money. I stayed and entered business. Today I am the owner of a large business concern. I have everything money can buy. I have a beautiful home and a lovely wife and children. Down in my heart, however, there is a great void. My life has been a failure, not from the standpoint of the world, but from God's point of view!"

How ready is the man to go,
Whom God hath never sent,
How timorous, diffident and slow,
His chosen instrument.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Scripture Reading—Joshua 23, 24; Judges, 1, 2

MASTER, SPEAK!

Master, speak! Thy servant heareth,
Waiting for Thy gracious Word;
Longing for Thy voice that cheereth,
Master, let it now be heard.
I am listening, Lord, for Thee:
What hast Thou to say to me?

Speak to me by name, O Master,
Let me know it is to me;
Speak, that I may follow faster,
With a step more firm and free,
Where the Shepherd leads the flocks,
In the shadow of the Rock.

Master, speak! Tho' least and lowest,
Let me not unheard depart;
Master, speak! for, oh, thou knowest
All the yearnings of my heart,
Knowest all its truest need;
Speak! and make me blest indeed.

Master, speak! and make me ready,
When Thy voice is truly heard,
With obedience glad and steady,
Still to follow every word.
I am listening, Lord, for Thee;
Master, speak, oh, speak to me!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Scripture Reading—Judges 3-6

WARNING UNHEEDED

Many years ago, the steamer *Portland* left Boston harbor when all the danger signals were flying. The weather was stormy. The government agent in the signal office had advised all vessels to remain in port. The captain of the *Portland* was heedless of all warnings. Before sailing he said to the keeper of the lighthouse, "Keep your light burning brightly tonight. We may come back!" But neither he, his crew, nor his vessel came back! When they were just outside the harbor, a mighty storm broke in fury. The vessel was torn to pieces. Not one on board ever saw friends or loved ones again.

The shores of time are strewn with moral and spiritual wrecks, men and women who defiantly went in their own willful ways with no thought of God, and no sense of need of His directing, molding hand.

Lest we make a shipwreck of our lives, may this be our daily prayer:

Jesus, Saviour, pilot me,
Over life's tempestuous sea!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Scripture Reading—Judges 7-9

DID I PLEASE YOU?

Some years ago in a Southern city I saw a large group of people standing at a street corner. Going closer, I saw a hound performing stunts so amazing as to be unbelievable! At first I didn't see anyone giving commands to the dog. Then, as I looked around, I saw a black boy whose lips barely moved standing nearby. He was speaking to the dog in soft undertones. When the performance was over, the dog went to his master, with tail awag and eyes fixed on him. Could the dog have articulated his thoughts, I am sure he would have said, "Did I please you? Did I fully obey you?"

The boy caressingly stroked the dog's head, as he said, "Good doggie! Good doggie!"

Going to the boy, I said, "I love dogs. How I would like to own your wonderful dog! I'll give you fifteen dollars for him." (That was when fifteen dollars were worth much more than they are today.) The boy said, "If you would give me a hundred times that much, you couldn't have my dog. I wouldn't sell him to anybody!"

Tears suffused my eyes as I walked away. I prayed silently, "Heavenly Master, make me as subservient to Your will as that dog is to his master's will! May I so fully obey Thee that when I stand in Thy presence I may hear Thy 'Well done, good and faithful servant!' " Since that day, I have never ceased to pray that prayer.

It is better not to know than to know and not to do: "For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them" (2 Peter 2:21). *Most of us know better than we do.*

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

WILL JESUS UNDERSTAND?

One of God's children came to the end of life. It was evident that he was in great distress. A minister spoke comfortingly and assuringly to him. The dying man listened as if in a trance. Then he said, "I believe I am saved, and that soon I will stand in the presence of my Lord, but what can I say to Him about the wasted years? Will he understand?" It is possible to have a saved soul and a wasted life!—Selected

For February 13

OBSERVING THE LAST SUPPER

Lesson Text: Luke 22:1, 2, 7-20
Memory Verse: Luke 22:19

I. INTRODUCTION

By tradition Valentine's Day, February 14, becomes an occasion for expressing love to our friends. An early Christian named Valentine, whose faith and martyrdom caused him finally to be called a saint, is known most for his having a day observed in his honor, and for the customary greetings.

The red hearts of Valentine fade into dull pink, though, when compared with the loving sacrifice of God's Son, whom that ancient man named Valentine acknowledged as Lord. Jesus exemplified love at many levels. His voluntary death for our sins was the highest expression, but it is not all. That was an outpouring of divine love for all the world, but Jesus possessed also a warm friendship for the persons nearest to Him. To them He gave a marvelous depth of concern and understanding, and from them He sought the support of companionship in the hours of His distress. The Apostle John —"the disciple whom Jesus loved"—seems to have understood this better than the others. In all his writings John emphasized Jesus' insistence on love as the badge of discipleship.

Nowhere is this clearer than in the paragraph of John's Gospel that introduces the events of the Lord's last evening with the twelve: "Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end" (John 13:1).

Three suppers are to be distinguished in the events of that last evening. First is the Passover, beloved of the Jews as the center of their tenderest traditions. Its observance was commanded by God as a memorial of the mighty works by which He brought them out of bondage in Egypt. Deuteronomy 16 describes the Passover and prescribes the manner of its observance. This provided the background for the *Last Supper* and the *Lord's Supper*.

Jesus took the Passover, with all its symbolism and tender memories, as the occasion to share the last table fellowship with His nearest friends before He died. This seems to be clear in the records of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Some students take several references in John (13:1, 2; 18:28; 19:14, 31) to imply that this supper took place before the Passover, and that Christ's death on the Cross took place at the time the paschal lambs were being slain (compare 1 Corinthians 5:7). We need not pause to consider this ancient argument. The Last Supper is of the utmost significance, whether it is the same as the Passover Supper or not.

Third is the Lord's Supper, the institution by which Christ established a link with His church in the future. This is made clear in 1 Corinthians 11:20-34. The elements of bread and the fruit of the vine were the same as those used in the Passover, but they were used and dedicated separately, and with an entirely new significance. They became declarative of the death that had not yet occurred, a bridge over the coming separation from His disciples, and a link with the Lord's final coming in glory.

The Passover link with Israel's past, the Last-Supper link with the apostles present, and the Lord's-Supper link with the church to be established —all these combined into one full occasion on the night in which Jesus was betrayed. It is worthy of our most attentive study.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. The Feast of the Passover was a Jewish Feast instituted by the Lord to constantly remind them of how the Lord had spared their firstborn and had brought them safely out of Egypt. The Lord's Supper which we study about today was given by Jesus to His disciples to remind them of how we were saved and what our hope for the future is.

B. Jesus sent Peter and John to make preparation for the Passover Supper. He told them that they would find a man bearing a pitcher of water, and that man would make available to them a room.

C. Jesus told the disciples twice that He was anxious to eat this supper with them before His suffering. This was a clear prophecy of His coming death.

D. We believe that the bread in the Lord's Supper was unleavened bread and that it represents the sinless body of the Lord Jesus Christ. We also believe that the fruit of the vine represents the blood of Jesus which was also pure.

E. Free Will Baptists do not believe that the Lord's Supper is a church table. We believe that it is the Lord's Table; therefore, it should be open to all of the Lord's people regardless of what church they may be affiliated with. Furthermore, we do not believe that God has given us the task of deciding who is Christian and who isn't. So we invite all Christians (and let them be their own judges) to come and take the Lord's Supper with us.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

THE BOOK CORNER

by De Wayne Eakes

Robert D. Dale, Carrie Kondy Dale, *Making Good Marriages Better,* (Broadman Press, Nashville, Tenn., 1978).

This book is a very useable tool for the minister who seeks to help the couples in his care to enrich their already good marriages. Instead of being a cure for "sick" marriages already about to crumble, this book is preventative medicine. Its goal is to strengthen good marriages.

The Dales' concept of marriage is a covenant relationship between a man and woman who genuinely love each other, the two being in covenant with God in marriage. Their concept of marriage is strongly Christian. Throughout the book, which is itself filled with exercises designed to benefit a couple working on their marriage, there is a very unapologetic dependence upon God's leadership and blessing.

"Most marriages—even the good ones—can be better. Dr. and Mrs. Dale spell out things to help them become so. Their suggestions are explicit and practical. The book reflects a deep concern for marriage. It grows out of years of study and work to help couples improve their marriages. While many counselors have directed attention to solving the problems connected with divorce, the authors have worked towards making divorce unnecessary, If you want to enrich your own marriage or if you want to help others do so, here is a book for you." (Quoted from inside jacket cover.)

This book is a great resource for ministers working with couples or for individual couples to use on their own. Our bookstores can order this book for you.

NOTICES

Applications are being accepted through February 15, 1983, for the position of Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. Interested persons should send their resumes to the Rev. Robert May at the following address: Route 4, Box 387, Ahoskie, NC 27910.

The Executive Committee of the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will meet February 15, 1983, in the Multipurpose Room at the Press in Ayden. All members of the Committee are asked to be present.

Scott Sowers, *Secretary*

The Home Missions Board will meet at the Free Will Baptist Headquarters, Ayden, on February 25, 1983. Anyone having business with the Board should contact the office of the Home Missions Department by calling (919) 746-4963.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 7)

The Rev. James R. (Reb) Lancaster is pastor of Rose of Sharon Church.

MOC PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker at Macedonia Church in Craven County on Sunday, February 13, at 11 a.m. At 9:45 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes.

During his visit, President Raper will review plans for Mount Olive's transition to four-year status.

The pastor of Macedonia Church is the Rev. Walter Sutton.

WE CAN GO TO JESUS

by R. P. Harris

People are attracted to eventful occurrences. Jesus became very popular in His early ministry. This came about as a result of certain miracles like changing water into wine, the feeding of the five thousand men, not to mention the women and children, stilling the tempest, and walking on water. Some came out of curiosity, some came for loaves and fishes, and some came because there was a need, as for the lame, the deaf and blind, or like one having an issue of blood, or for a very sick dying relative.

The curious and the seekers of food did not return. Some who were healed became disciples. But those who met Jesus and fell in love with Him became the sons of God, and heirs to the Kingdom. We can go to Jesus, and we must go to Jesus because He is the *Way,* the *Truth,* and the *Life!*

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Joseph A. Lehmann announces that he is available for supply or pastoral work beginning the first of March. He may be contacted at 753-3527. His address is 407 East Church Street, Farmville, North Carolina 27828.

The Rev. D. T. Cleve announces that he is available for pastoral work. His address is P.O. Box 1406, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557; phone, 726-7742.

Does your church need furniture?
Are your pews worn out? Do they need padding?
Do you need new stained glass windows or a steeple?
Are you tired of going to other churches whenever you have a baptismal service?

Church furniture is available through the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and its bookstores. Contact them for assistance today!

CHURCH FURNITURE

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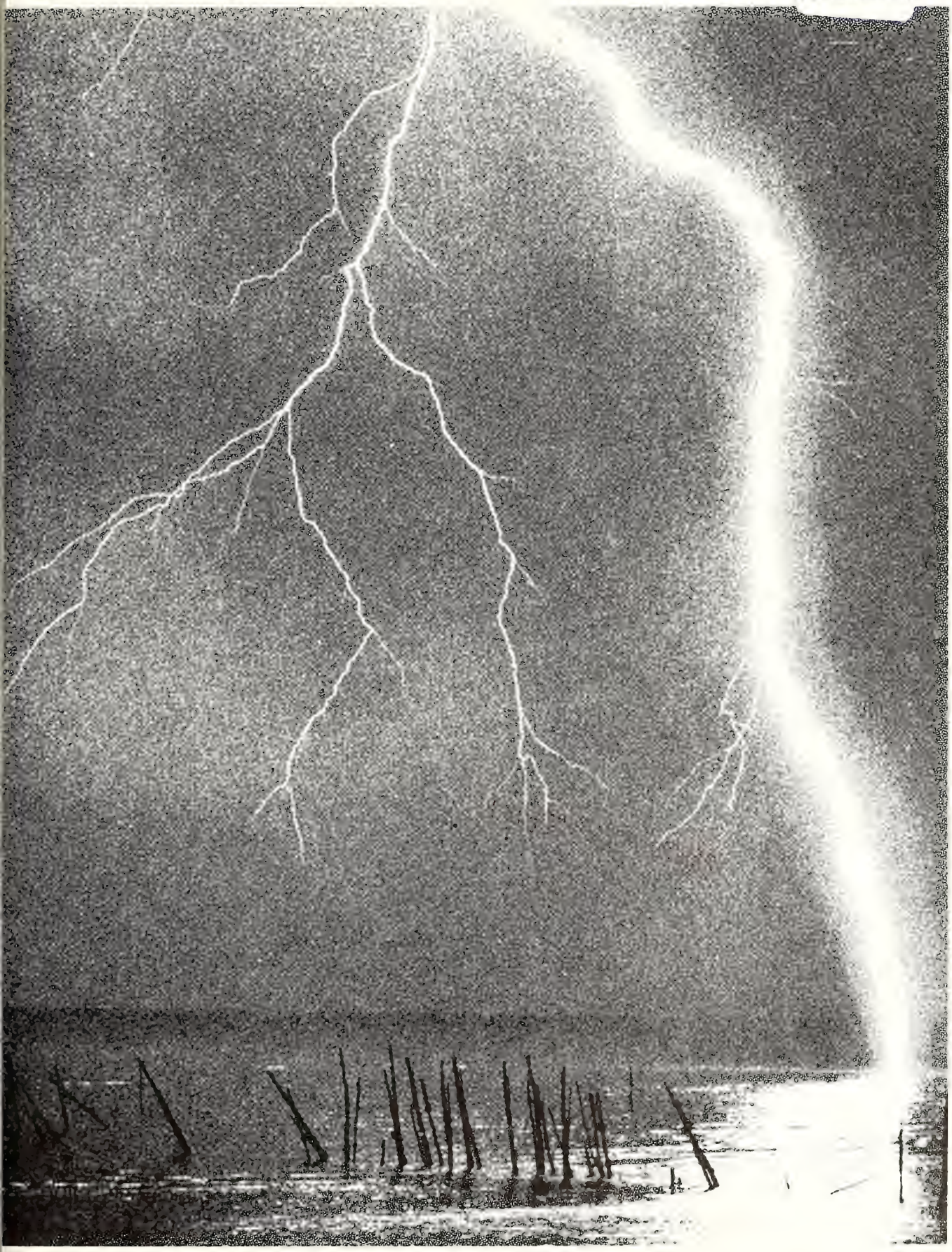

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

Midst the Storms

Peace: freedom from disturbances and fighting; harmony; an undisturbed state of mind; calm; quiet; tranquility. Peace is defined in many ways by different people.

Two artists put on canvas their concepts of peace. One painted a placid rural scene. Adjacent to the country house which was centered in his rendering were fertile fields yielding forth an abundant harvest. The undulating roads stretched in many directions from the front of the house toward the horizon. Over the glen and dale hovered a lazy haze. Cows lay lazily under a shade tree, chewing their cuds. Viewers could almost hear the rustle of the ripened wheat as it swayed, the result of the wind's gentle kiss; and the sun laughingly shone on this blissful picture of calm and contentment.

The other artist? Well, his concept of peace was totally different. A destroying tempest raged, causing trees to sway to and fro on the storm-lashed mountainside and valley. The ominous and gloomy sky seemed only to be relieved by the zigzag flashes of lightning. A roaring waterfall lunged furiously over the precipice, working disaster in the valley below. How did this turbulent scene represent peace? On a rock which projected from the cliff, a little bird sat calmly on his nest. Sheltered by an overhanging boulder, the bird seemed unmindful of the howling storm or of the raging waters which plunged nearby. There the little bird sat, unperturbed, undisturbed, unafraid.

In this world, God's children live and move and have their being amidst scenes of turmoil, tribulation, stress, strain, and storms. Inwardly their hearts and minds are kept by God in ever deepening peace and calm—or are they? Daily they prove the genuine promise found in Isaiah 26:3, *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee;* or does this promise go unfulfilled, thwarted by the actions of our "brothers and sisters in Christ?"

Oh, how our spirits yearn for peace, but we will not have peace, we cannot have peace until we have love for Christ and for one another. We will examine this more thoroughly next week; we will view how turmoil, controversy, and storms are doing all but helping our cause.

(Next week: We All Hurt!)

Free Will Baptists Have Stronghold In Johnston County

submitted by Helen W. Smith

What does Johnston County have more of than any other county in North Carolina? Sweet potatoes, yes; but also a group of people large enough to populate a town the size of Selma. They are Free Will Baptists, over 5,000 strong in Johnston territory.

Why so many in Johnston County? The Rev. Leonard Woodall of Princeton, a "retired" Free Will Baptist preacher who is almost as pulpit-busy now as in pre-retirement days, said, "I've never been able to figure that one out. It may be that somebody did some missionary work with country people a long time ago."

Whatever the reason, Free Will Baptist homes dot the Johnston landscape like plums in a rich ecclesiastical pie; and, from one county line to another, steeples of their churches nudge the heavens to continual wakefulness.

The churches are: Bethel and Faith, both of Route 2, Four Oaks; Hopewell of Route 1, Smithfield; Johnston Union of Route 1, Clayton; Lanwood Chapel and Yelverton Grove of Route 3, Smithfield; Powhatan of Route 2, Clayton; Riverside of Route 1, Princeton; Saint Mary's Grove of Route 3, Benson; Steven's Chapel of Route 1, Benson; Tee's Chapel of Route 2, Smithfield.

Branch Chapel and Pleasant Plain of Route 2, Selma; Everett Chapel of Clayton; Friendship of Route 1, Middlesex; Holly Springs of Route 2, Kenly; Rains Cross Roads of Route 1, Kenly; Trinity of Route 1, Clayton; Stancil's Chapel of Route 2, Kenly; Smyrna of Route 6, Dunn.

Also, Calvary of West Smithfield; East Johnston of Princeton; Fellowship near Micro; Unity of South Smithfield; and churches that bear the names of the towns of Smithfield, Selma, Kenly, Micro, and Pine Level.

What's the Difference?

What makes Free Will Baptists basically different from other Baptists?

Mr. Woodall explained that all Baptists have their roots in Calvinism—the teachings of John Calvin, a well-educated Frenchman and religious reformer who lived from 1509 to 1564. He said, "Calvinism in a nutshell is 'God in His wisdom appoints to each eternal happiness or woe.' "

He continued, "Jacobus Arminius, a fairly well-educated Dutch religious reformer who lived from 1560 to 1609, was a Calvinist during his early ministry, but he later rejected the idea that God appoints each eternal happiness or woe and promoted the idea of freedom of will or choice in religious thought and faith."

Arminianism, briefly stated, is that "the truly converted, who believe in Christ as Son of God, may obtain His aid so long as they actively desire it, and no power can separate them from Him."

Mr. Woodall said, "If I understand the Southern Baptists' position on the security of the believer, it is as follows: The truly

(Turn the Page)

converted who believe in Christ as Son of God can in no way by any power be separated from Him."

The Rev. John Ryberg, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Smithfield, said this is known as "Perseverance of the Saints," and the exact wording of the principle is: "Those who God hath accepted and sanctified by His Spirit will never totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace, but shall certainly persevere to the end; and though they may fall through neglect and temptation into sin, whenever they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, bring reproach on the Church, and temporal judgment on themselves, yet they shall be renewed again unto repentance and be kept by the power of God through the faith unto salvation." (Mr. Ryberg noted that in the Baptist Church "every man is his own priest before God, and it is hard to say what each of them believes in total.")

Free Will Position

But the basic Free Will Baptist position on the same principle, explained Mr. Woodall, is as follows: "The truly converted who believe in Christ as Son of God cannot be separated from Christ by any power so long as he chooses to follow Christ. However, if the believer chooses of his own free will to turn his back on Christ, so to speak, he can be lost after being converted."

He added, "We Free Will Baptists don't mean to teach that God will turn His love in Christ from us. It is we who can turn our backs on Him and reject His saving love."

Mr. Woodall said he agrees with church historians who say the first Baptists who came to New England and North Carolina practiced the Free Will Baptist faith, although the term "Free Will Baptist" was not used until the 1820s.

Thad Harrison and J. M. Barfield, authors of the *History of the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina,* remind their readers that "the Free Will Baptist Churches of North Carolina were not organized by men raised in the United States, but by Free Will Baptist ministers direct from London, England."

Different Sacraments

Free Will Baptists also differ from other Baptists in their sacraments. Baptists have baptism by immersion and The Lord's Supper. Free Will Baptists observe the same but also practice feet-washing, patterned after those of the days of Christ.

Authors Harrison and Barfield explain Free Will Baptist feet-washing succinctly: "Our practice is based on the words of the Lord Jesus Christ, 'If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, ye also ought to wash one another's feet.' "

H. C. Early, in his tract on Scriptural Communion, wrote: "Since feet-washing, The Lord's Supper, and the communion were all associated together at the time of their institution by the Author of our salvation, we consider it proper to observe them."

The Rev. Mike Scott, former pastor of Johnston Union Church on Route 1, Clayton, said the church observes feet-washing once a quarter, and the services are usually very well-attended. "We use an old-fashion wash basin and a towel large enough to wrap around a person and have some left over," he said. "It's a one-to-one thing, with women washing each other's feet and men washing the feet of men, and then they are dried with the towel."

Yes, Johnston County's more than 5,000 Free Will Baptists are different from other Baptists; but Mr. Woodall emphasizes they are all "brothers in Christ."

The steeples of the 29 Free Will Baptist Churches in Johnston are joined by those of 45 other Baptist churches, and some say Heaven never sleeps.

—Written by Doris Cannon, *The Smithfield Herald* Staff Writer

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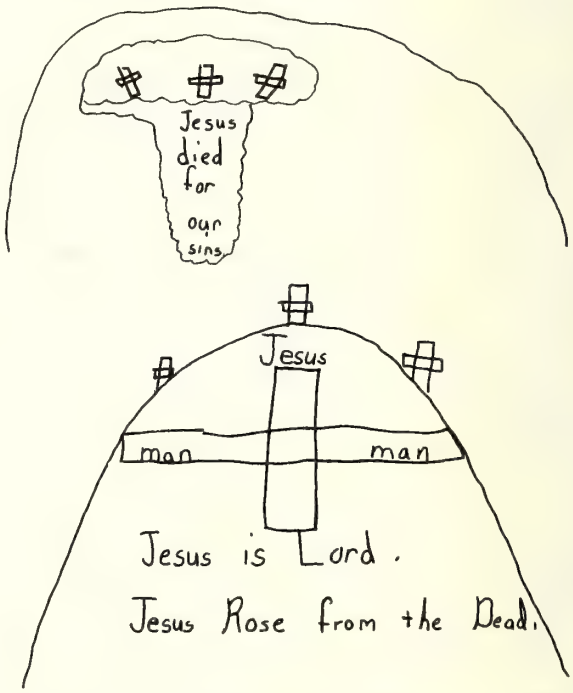
BEAR THE CROSS

by Leslie Ann Gray

Bear the Cross at the hill. Bear the Cross in Heaven. Bear the Cross right here. Bear the Cross right now. Bear the Cross anywhere today. Bear it tomorrow.

Bear it somewhere today.



Leslie is the eight-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Gray of Winterville, NC. A member of Winterville Church, Leslie challenges us all to live as we should.

YOUTH HONOR DOT DAIL

Mrs. Dot Dail (seated) with present officers (left) and her family.

When the Central District Youth Fellowship met January 15, 1983, at Bethany Church, it honored Mrs. Dot Dail, past Central District Youth Chairman. The Rev. and Mrs. C. L. Patrick spoke concerning Dot's life as a Christian and a member of Bethany Church. The Rev. and Mrs. Scott Sowers told of the role she played in district and state youth work, mentioning how she has helped to shape the lives of many young people in the last ten years.

Many of the district youth officers who served with Dot were able to attend the meeting. They helped to surprise her and their words of praise added much to the evening's meeting.

Among the tributes given was the following poem written by Sheryll Eason Wood.

A TRIBUTE TO DOT DAIL
(January 15, 1983)

When you're young
You want it all—at least that's how it seems.
And then one day you want a friend who understands your goals and dreams,
But also one who knows how hard to reach those dreams may be,
One who knows that worthwhile goals never come for free.

When you're young
You need so much—at least that's how it seems.
You need that friend who's been that way, and remembers all those dreams,
You need someone who understands that answers are hard to find,
One who grieves and cries with you when you fail from time to time.

When you're young
You have so much—at least that's how it seems.
But do you have that inspiration to fulfill all those dreams?
One who guides you on the way and helps you see God's plan,
But lets you do things on your own so that you will know you can.

When we were young
We had that friend who showed us all the means
To scale the heights, to climb the hills, to reach those golden dreams.
You gave us hope; you gave us praise; you helped us on our way.
You made a difference in the kind of people we are today.

Now we're older and on our way
Still working toward those dreams,
But tonight we stop to say to you how much that it still means
To know you cared, to know you prayed, to know you gave your all,
We love you and we thank you for the way you met God's call.

The Rev. C. L. Patrick and Mrs. Dail.

A DEDICATED WOMAN

submitted by Barbara Bryan

Mrs. Nancy Hardee

Mrs. Nancy Hardee was honored at the January meeting of the Oak Grove Woman's Auxiliary by being awarded the Life Membership Award. Mrs. Hardee was presented a pin and a certificate by the president, Mrs. Ava Edwards.

Nancy attends Oak Grove Church of Bladenboro, where her husband, the Rev. James B. Hardee, serves as pastor. Mr. Hardee credits his wife, Nancy, with having made possible much of his success as a minister. Mrs. Hardee was honored for her devoted time spent in service not only to the

(Turn the Page)

auxiliary but also her church and community. At present she is vice president of the Pee Dee District Woman's Auxiliary, and Study Course Chairman of the local auxiliary chapter. She has held that office as well as other offices for several years. Mrs. Hardee teaches the Junior Sunday School Class and is a member of the church choir. Her faithfulness has helped to make Oak Grove Auxiliary what it is today.

Mrs. Hardee, we love you and thank God for the work you are doing among us. You and your family are a part of us and our prayer is for God to continue to bless you as you sow His seed, as He promised to reap the harvest.

IN MEMORIAM
Mr. George F. Benson

Mr. George F. Benson was a lifelong member of the Free Will Baptist Church and its organizations. He was a member in his early years at the Sarecta Church near Kenansville. After his marriage to Christine Outlaw of Lenoir County, they moved to Deep Run, where they raised three daughters and all were members of Deep Run Church.

He was very devoted to his church and gave his full support to the organization. He was Sunday school superintendent for many years, also a dedicated member of the church choir. He always enjoyed music and encouraged his daughters to participate in this endeavor. He served as a deacon for many years. He was very well loved by members of the community and he served in the Deep Run Ruritan Club for many years. He died on February 8, 1982, at 75 years of age. His funeral (by his request) was carried out in the order of service of a regular church meeting, with the Rev. Adrian Grubbs and the Rev. Melvin Everington in charge of the service.

Mr. George F. Benson

Prior to his death, at his last Father's Day Dinner at the Deep Run Church, a song written by his daughter, Shirley Smith, was sung by his three daughters as a surprise for him. Below are the words to that song:

A WONDERFUL DAD

Our Father in Heaven has blessed us so
We thank Him for blessings we've had
But one of the best things a girl could know
Is the love of a wonderful dad.

Yes, we had a wonderful dad
He taught us the things that are true
To love one another; be kind to our brother
To be honest in all we do.

Yes, we're proud and so happy today
To honor our father this way.
We want him to know that we love him so
And we're glad we had a wonderful dad.

MID-YEAR SPIRITUAL LIFE CONFERENCE

Dr. Robert "Bob" Dale will be the guest speaker for the annual Mid-year Spiritual Life Conference this year. His topic is "Stages in a Minister's Marriage." Dr. Dale is Professor of Pastoral Leadership and Church Administration at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, NC. He is also Director of Advanced Professional Studies there.

(Continued on Page 15)

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

I would like to share with you two great resources for your youth ministry. One concentrates on theory and the other on practical programming.

The first resource is a book entitled *Building An Effective Youth Ministry.* It was written by Glenn E. Ludwig, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hanover, Pennsylvania, who has had a long and varied experience in youth work. It was published by Abingdon in 1979 and its fourth printing was in 1981. It concentrates on the theory and theological basis for the establishment of an effective youth ministry. The author discusses how to organize, how to select youth ministry leaders, how the church and youth can work together to get things accomplished, how to select the right kind of programs, publicity, naming the group—even getting the desired ratio of boys and girls. It is a book that can really help you to build a more effective youth ministry.

Group is a magazine written especially for youth and youth leaders. It is published monthly. There are editions for members and for youth leaders. The edition for leaders has many practical articles on youth ministry like how to help youth grow spiritually and how to develop rules the group will respect. The members' edition carries such topics as running away, parent and youth relationships, dating, how to discover God's will, and much more.

Group is the best practical resource for youth ministry that I have found. You will like the price, too. It can be ordered in bulk rates. If you would like more information, write to: Group Subcription Services, Box 202, Mt. Morris, Illinois 61054.

(NEXT WEEK: Christian Leadership)

STATE CONVENTION GETS CERTIFICATES OF MEMBERSHIP

In its November meeting the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees voted to give to the North Carolina State Convention the ten certificates of membership in the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation which the College owned. Pictured above is the President of the State Convention, the Rev. Gary M. Bailey, receiving these certificates from Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College. In making the presentation Dr. Raper stated that "in making this transfer of ownership, it is the position of the College that it is more appropriate for the Convention, as the sponsoring body of the College, to own and represent these memberships than it is for the College."

State League Convention to Meet

"Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God" (Matthew 6:33) is the theme of the program of the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues, which will convene on Saturday, March 12, 1983, at the First Church, 604 East Ash Street, Goldsboro. Registration will open at 9:30 a.m. and the convention will begin at 10 a.m.

An interesting program has been planned. Miss Becky Jo Sumner will give a program for the youth—through the junior age Leaguers. The Rev. Harold Jones, director of Foreign Missions, will speak and show slides of the work in India.

As usual, the Junior and Intermediate Sword Drills will be held with winners receiving an expense-paid or one-half-expense-paid trip to Cragmont this summer. Each church may enter one contestant in the Junior drill (ages 9-11) and one contestant in the Intermediate drill (ages 12-15). Copies of the study materials may be obtained from Mrs. Margaret Ard, Route 1, Pink Hill, North Carolina 28572. The 1984 study materials are now available.

Leagues are requested to send a generous contribution for the state projects—League promotional work and Cragmont building fund—at least $75 if possible. Any amount, however, will be greatly appreciated.

Report blanks have been mailed to either the general secretary or the general director of the local Leagues. Any Leagues that have not received a report blank should write for one from Miss Leah McGlohon, Box 2, Winterville, North Carolina 28590. Please note that the registration fee has been increased to $15.

Faith Mission Has New Facelift

Faith Mission of Leland has a new facelift. The Ladies Auxiliary and the Youth of the mission say a special thanks to the Brotherhood who have done a wonderful remodeling job —sanctuary floors, walls, ceiling, and new windows.

The Brotherhood of the church did the labor and the church's building fund paid for the materials. Even the pastor of the mission jumped in and helped the men. Thanks go to the men for a job well done: Roger Heath, Ralph Long, Arnold Anderson, Eddie Stokeley, Glenn Jackson, Ray Heath, Kenneth Perdue, Gene Leonard, David Watkins, and Jimmy Ammons.

Eastern Conference Layman's League to Meet

The Eastern Conference Layman's League will meet February 26, 1983, at 7:30 p.m., at Pearsall Chapel Church, Route 1, Kenansville. All Eastern Conference laymen are invited to attend.

Third Union Youth Have Meeting

The youth advisor and leaders of the Third Union of the Eastern District had a retreat on February 1, 1983, at Folkstone Church, Holly Ridge. The meeting was opened by Melinda Lanier reading Scripture from Proverbs 22:6 and Matthew 19:13-15, after which a prayer was offered. Melinda then spoke on the purpose of the retreat—a time to pray, meditate, study ideas, and discuss problems by the youth from each church represented.

Each person then stood and told what church they

(Continued on Page 15)

FOURTH CENTRAL UNION SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

Lee Ann Johnson (left) and Gina Carraway, are the recipients of scholarships for 1983 from the Fourth Central Union Endowment Fund. Lee Ann is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Lee Johnson of Snow Hill, and Gina is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alton Carraway, also of Snow Hill.

The churches of the Fourth Central Union have established an endowment at Mount Olive College, and that endowment is currently providing scholarships for Free Will Baptists. To be eligible, a student must be a member of one of the participating churches. They are as follows: Aspen Grove (Wilson County), Dilda's Grove (Pitt County), Edgewood (Edgecombe County), Harrell's Chapel (Greene County), LaGrange (Lenoir County), Otter's Creek (Edgecombe County) Owen's Chapel (Wilson County), Peace (Edgecombe County), Saratoga (Wilson County), Walnut Creek (Wayne County), and Watery Branch (Wayne County).

Two scholarships of $200 each have been awarded from the fund for this academic year to Lee Ann Johnson and Gina Carraway, both members of Harrell's Chapel. Marian Kennedy, a member of the First Church of LaGrange, was the scholarship recipient for the 1981-82 academic year.

Prior to November 29, 1981, the Fourth Central Union churches had maintained an Education Loan Fund for the purpose of assisting their students in attending college. On that date, these churches voted unanimously to transfer the administration and ownership of the Fund to Mount Olive College.

There were several reasons for the request as listed in the resolution. First, was the fact that since the Education Fund had been established, it had become more difficult to effectively administer a small education loan fund. Second, the churches considered the fact that Mount Olive College, "a fully accredited college owned and operated by the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists," was providing educational services to the churches of the Fourth Central Union Meeting. Third, the Resolution noted that "Mount Olive College desires to provide financial assistance that will assure that no worthy and qualified Free Will Baptist student is denied the opportunity of a college education." Last, the Fourth Central Union churches felt that Mount Olive College's transition to four-year status would "substantially increase the need for funds to assist Free Will Baptist students in financing their education."

As they requested, the name of the fund was changed to the "Fourth Central Union Education Fund," and the fund's principal was invested to provide scholarships for students from churches in the Fourth Central Union Meeting who are attending Mount Olive College.

The College is proud of the investment that the Fourth Central Union churches are making in the future of their college students.

"CHURCH ADMINISTRATION" TO BE TAUGHT

"Church Administration" will be taught on the Mount Olive College campus by the Rev. Frank Harrison, beginning Monday, March 14, from 8-9:45 p.m., in Room 109 of the Henderson Building. The purpose of the course is to acquaint the student with the basic administrative responsibilities of the pastor, and introduce him to some resources for use in weddings, funerals, and worship services. The class will meet on a weekly basis on Monday nights through May 2.

The course may be taken for either one semester hour of college credit or for three Paul Palmer credits. If taken for either college credit or for Paul Palmer credit, the cost will be $20. If taken for non-credit, the cost will be $10. Students can register at the first class meeting.

MOC PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker at Bethel Church (Cape Fear Conference) on Sunday, February

(Continued on Page 15)

TELETHON 1983

March is Foreign Missions Month and it's time for another telethon. Last year the response was great. The total given on Telethon Sunday was $22,544.35. Let's exceed this amount in the 1983 telethon!

TELETHON SUNDAY WILL BE MARCH 27.

THEME—"JOSE NEEDS CHRIST"

THEME VERSE—Mark 16:15, "And He (Jesus) said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

MARCH 27—TELETHON SUNDAY AND DAY OF PRAYER FOR WORLD MISSIONS.

I. Make Preparations early.

A. Announce the telethon.

B. Place posters in strategic places.

C. Set a goal as a church or individual.

D. Plan for special mission emphasis during March.

E. Plan a special service for March 27 and observe that day as a Day of Prayer for World Missions.

II. Materials centered around the theme have been prepared.

A. Bulletin inserts emphasize Jose's need for Christ and how the church can meet this need.

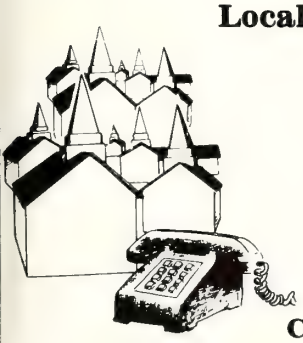
B. A special bulletin cover for use on March 27 is available.

C. Fred Baker, missionary to the Philippines, has written a new missions song for you to learn.

D. Contact the Director for further information and help for the telethon.

III. Call your Foreign Missions Office, March 27 between 1:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to report the amount of your offering (phone 746-4963). We will be waiting for your call.

Local Church Participation is the Key to a Great Telethon!



Your telethon call and regular monthly support to

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS, AYDEN, NC, SENDS

Call 746-4963 between 1:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. March 27, 1983.

Each local church is responsible for reaching the lost of this earth.

OFFICE CLOSED

In its regular meeting held February 2, 1983, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc., voted to terminate its Development Department as of February 3, 1983.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to the resignation of E. Howard Cayton, Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc., effective May 3, 1983, a Search Committee has been appointed to secure a new Executive Director. This committee consists of the Rev. James B. Hardee, Mrs. Rebecca Davenport, Mrs. Carolyn S. Eakes, and Mr. Charles E. Sullivan. Applications may be submitted to the Rev. James B. Hardee at P. O. Box 43, Elizabethtown, NC 28337, or to any other member of the committee.

A STATEMENT FROM THE CHILDREN'S HOME BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Children's Home Board voted to sign into compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964. We voted to sign now rather than waiting for the Convention to meet because we believe this is the only way for us to save our Children's Home.

Some of the other factors influencing our decision are:

(1) That the Board decided that signing into compliance is absolutely necessary if we want to continue to care for the children here now and for others who need us.

(2) Waiting for Convention approval would take time; we're already behind and do not need to waste time, but get on with the program of serving children.

(3) This matter is still a very emotional issue. It would be better for the Home to go ahead and do what it believes it must do—sign into compliance, and then inform the Convention that we have done so. If the Convention feels that we have done the wrong thing, they may say so. This board has no intentions of overriding the Convention.

Some of the positive results of this action are:

(1) We will be eligible to receive children through placement from state agencies which will increase our population of children and enhance the scope of our ministry.

(2) We will be in accordance with the law of our land.

(3) We will enjoy the cooperative efforts of the local department of social services in meeting the needs of children and their families.

(4) We will open the doors for federal and state funding which will be of substantial financial assistance in meeting the direct needs of children in our care.

(5) It will enhance our chances to continue enjoying the tax-exempt status for gifts and private donations.

(6) The tax monies that are paid by us and the relatives of children in care will in some part be available to help care for these children.

(7) The Original Free Will Baptists will continue to have complete control of the Children's Home.

In conclusion, there seems to be a brighter future for our Children's Home in light of the action which has been taken. God has given us a gracious opportunity and along with it a serious responsibility to care for these children who need us. We are moving on to enjoy His blessings in doing as He has instructed us and to make progress in the work of this ministry.

If any church or individual has further questions or concerns please contact the board member or members in your conference.

For your convenience, a list of the present board members has been included.

BOARD MEMBERS FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME 1982-83

The Rev. J. Billy Hardee, President (Pee Dee)
P. O. Box 43
Elizabethtown, NC 28337
Phone: 862-3940

Rebecca Davenport, Vice President (Central)
Route 1, Box 62
Winterville, NC 28590
Phone: 756-3014

Carolyn S. Eakes, Secretary (Western)
P. O. Box 298
Lucama, NC 27851
Phone: 239-1058

Charles E. Sullivan, Assistant Secretary (Western)
1408 Forest Hill Road
Wilson, NC 27893
Phone: 237-2343

Roney B. Bunn, Jr. (Western)
Route 3, Box 189
Kenly, NC 27542
Phone: 237-4428

James W. Cahoon (Albemarle)
P. O. Box 125
Columbia, NC 27925
Phone: 796-1412

The Rev. Eddie Edwards (Piedmont)
308 Old Midway Road
Rockingham, NC 28379
Phone: 997-2996

The Rev Douglas Skinner (Eastern)
P.O. Box 117
Arapahoe, NC 28510
Phone: 249-1484

Charles Harrell (Alumni)
116 North Breazeale Avenue
Mount Olive, NC 28365
Phone: 658-4347

Dr. Eugene Poston (Piedmont)
3628 Margaret Wallace Road
Matthews, NC 28105
Phone: 704-371-4927

The Rev. Walter J. Sutton (Eastern)
Route 2, Box 100-A
Vanceboro, NC 28586
Phone: 244-0207

Johnny Woodall (Cape Fear)
Route 2, Box 243
Smithfield, NC 27577
Phone: 934-4991

Retirement Homes

JANUARY, 1983
RECEIPTS
Total $3,023.82

ALBEMARLE	
Belhaven	$ 25.00
Mount Zion	25.00
Total	$ 50.00
CAPE FEAR	
Casey's Chapel	$ 100.00
Goldsboro, First	250.00
Total	$ 350.00
CENTRAL	
Aspen Grove	$ 75.00
Ayden	20.00
Hugo	25.00
Winterville	20.00
Total	$ 140.00
EASTERN	
Bethel	$ 100.00
Daly's Chapel	50.00
Kinston, First	150.00
Lanier's Chapel	50.00
Memorial	50.00
Pearsall Chapel	100.00
Rock of Zion	150.00
Saints Delight	150.00
Sandy Plain	150.00
Snow Hill	100.00
Westside	150.00
Whaley's Chapel	100.00
Total	$1,300.00
PEE DEE	
Oak Grove	$ 80.61
Total	$ 80.61
PIEDMONT	
Highland Pines	$ 128.00
Total	$ 128.00
WESTERN	
Flood's Chapel	$ 7.00
Friendship	270.00
Little Rock	264.00
People's Chapel	25.00
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Sherron Acres	25.00
Stoney Creek	219.21
Youth Fellowship	25.00
Watson's Grove	40.00
Total	$ 975.21

Home Missions

REPORT FOR QUARTER BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 1982, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1982

ALBEMARLE	
Gum Neck	$ 50.00
Hickory Chapel	100.00
Mount Zion	17.92
Saint Paul	250.00
Shiloh	114.50
Sidney	256.19
Union Chapel	126.20
Albemarle District Auxiliary Convention	126.00
Albemarle Union Meeting	7.00
Total	$ 1,047.81
CAPE FEAR	
Bethel	$ 120.00
Eastover Mission	100.00
Goldsboro, First	200.00
Haymount Mission	311.60
Hopewell	182.80
Johnston Union	20.00
Lee's Chapel	225.28
Oak Grove	45.00
Palmer Memorial	123.13
Powhatan	27.49
Riverside	60.00
Shady Grove	12.00
Smithfield, First	50.00
Tee's Chapel	20.00
Yelverton Grove	100.00
Cape Fear Conference	347.39
Cape Fear Youth Fellowship	100.00
Total	$ 2,044.69
CENTRAL	
Aspen Grove	$ 10.00
Ayden	130.00
Bethany	102.25
Black Jack	225.49
Community	10.00
Daniels Chapel	360.00
Dilda's Grove	10.00
Edgewood	41.65
Elm Grove	515.00
Free Union	5.00
Friendship	68.16
Greenville, First	10.00
Grifton Mission	25.00
Grimsley	72.50
Harrell's Chapel	230.00
Hickory Grove	106.87
Howell Swamp	60.00
Hugo	431.25
Hull Road	210.00
King's Cross Roads	74.67
LaGrange	16.00
Little Creek	10.00
Marlboro	47.00
Ormondsville	10.00
Otter's Creek	74.05
Owens Chapel	110.00
Peace	31.25
Reedy Branch	10.00
Roanoke Rapids, First	5.00
Rose Hill	120.00
Rose of Sharon	10.00
Saratoga	220.00
Spring Branch	185.00
Tarboro, First	760.00
Watery Branch	15.00
Williamston, First	108.68
Winterville	331.93
Central Conference Mission Board	450.00
Fourth Union Meeting	11.96
Second Union Meeting	14.38
Total	$ 5,238.09
EASTERN	
Antioch	$ 100.00
Arapahoe	20.00
Beaufort	82.00
Beulaville	100.00
Bridgeton	129.00
Cabin	20.00
Core Creek	40.00
Crab Point	45.00
Croatan	20.00
Davis	11.96
Deep Run	40.00
Dublin Grove	10.00
Edwards Chapel	10.00
Folkstone	10.00
Gospel Outreach	10.00
Gray Branch	20.00
Hillsberry	30.00
Holly Springs	1,241.75
Kinston, First	70.00
Lanier's Chapel	20.00
Moseley's Creek	100.00
Mount Zion (Onslow County)	25.00
Mount Zion (Pamlico County)	25.00
New Haven	50.00
Northeast	25.00
Oriental	17.42
Pearsall Chapel	75.00
Pilgrim's Home	150.00
Pilgrims Rest	40.00
St. Mary's	260.00
Sandy Plain	45.00
Sneads Ferry	50.00
Sound View	274.59
Wardens Grove	75.18
Welcome Home	125.00
Westside	670.00
White Hill	25.00
Wintergreen	20.00
Woodrow, First	10.00
Eastern Conference Missions	200.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	20.00
Fifth Union Meeting	20.00
Third District Sunday School Convention	20.00
Third Union District	25.00
Total	$ 4,376.90
INDIVIDUALS	
Baker, Fred	$ 60.00
Futrelle, Foy	40.00
Grimsley, John W.	150.00
Hansley, D. W.	32.40
Harris, Dennis	100.00
Hill, Mrs. R. Gregg	190.00
Manning, Elza	25.00
Rollins, Alma S.	30.00
Whitfield, Mickey	100.00
Woodall, L. B.	20.00
Total	$ 747.40

(Continued on Page 15)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Scripture Reading—Judges 10-14

FAILURE TO HOLD THE LINE

"Have you, perchance found a diamond pendant? I feel sure I lost it last night in your theater," asked a woman who did not identify herself to the manager of the theater. "Not yet, madam," said the manager, "but we will search diligently for it. Please hold the line for a minute while I make inquiry." Returning a few moments later to the telephone, the manager said, "I have good news for you! The diamond pendant has been found!" There was no reply, however. "Hello! Hello! Hello!" said the manager but the woman who made the inquiry about the lost diamond pendant had failed to wait. The manager endeavored to trace the call, but without success.

Many of God's children are like that woman. They fail to wait on the Lord.

His answer to our prayers will come in His good time. The promise is sure: "Call unto me, and I will answer thee" (Jeremiah 33:3).

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Scripture Reading—Judges 15-18

WHAT WAITING DOES

The Rev. William Gray, when he was in the Alps, visited a glacier grotto that was reached by a tunnel bored through the solid ice.

"As we penetrated into the chilly depths," he said, "away from the outside sunshine, the light became dimmer and dimmer, and when we stood in the narrow chamber at the end of the passage, the darkness was as black as pitch. 'Wait,' said the guide, 'and in five minutes you shall see light clearly.' We waited, and it was just as he had told us. What happened was this: as the eye got accustomed to its new surroundings, the atmosphere gradually brightened, the walls and roof of the grotto glimmered into pure translucent green, and in the clear soft light that encircled us we could recognize the faces of our companions and read our guidebooks." That is what waiting can do. It can open our eyes to see the beautiful things of God all around us, but which only patient waiting eyes can see. I have known people laid aside by sickness, people baffled and troubled; everything was dark about them; but when at last they stopped striving, and simply waited, waited on God, then the light came, and they saw God's kindness and loved Him more and better for the quiet waiting time He pressed upon them.

Inspire me with the knowledge that a man may at times be called to do his duty by doing nothing, to work by keeping still, to serve by waiting.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Scripture Reading—Judges 19-21

HE KEEPS THE KEY

Is there some problem in your life to solve,
Some passage seeming full of mystery,
God knows, who brings the hidden things to light.
He keeps the key.

Is there some door closed by the Father's hand
Which widely opened you had hoped to see?
Trust God and wait—for when He shuts the door,
He keeps the key.

Is there some earnest prayer unanswered yet,
Or answered not as you had thought 'twould be?
God will make clear His purpose by-and-by.
He keeps the key.

Have patience with your God, your patient God,
All-wise, all-knowing, no long tarrier He,
And of the door of all thy future life
He keeps the key.

Unfailing comfort, sweet and blessed rest,
To know of every door He keeps the key
That He at last, when just He sees 'tis best,
Will give it thee.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Scripture Reading—Ruth 18

HID WITH CHRIST IN GOD

In the north Atlantic, icebergs are often seen in the wintertime. Ships sailing the Atlantic are often caught in violent storms. Mighty vessels are tossed about like chips by the mountainous waves. How different it is with the icebergs! Like majestic, white castles, they glide placidly through the heaving sea. They are defiant of the mighty waves which are hurled against their towering walls and glistening heads. They do not bob about like a cork because the lower part is deep in the ocean where there is calm. Only one-ninth of an iceberg is above the ocean.

When our lives are hidden with Christ in God, the storms of life are powerless to take from us the peace and repose we have in Christ.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Scripture Reading—1 Samuel 1-5

I'M GOING TO BE A PEACEMAKER

Two members of a church disagreed over a trivial matter. The disagreement hardened into ill will and hatred. A mutual friend became distressed about the situation. "I'm going to be a peacemaker and do what I can to heal the breach between my friends," he said to himself. He called on his friend Brown first and asked him, "What do you think of my friend Thompson?" "Think of him?" flashed Brown. "He is contemptible in my sight!" "But," said the peacemaker, "you must admit he is very kind to his family." "Yes, that's true. He is kind to his family." Next day, the peacemaker called to see his friend Thompson. "Do you know what Brown said about you?" "No, but I can imagine the dirty, unkind things he would say about me!" "Well," said the peacemaker, "he said that you are very kind to your family!" "What! Did he say that?" exclaimed Thompson. "He surely did. Now, what do you think of Thompson?" "I think he is a scamp and a rascal," said Brown. "But," said the peacemaker, "you will have to admit that he is an honest man." "Yes, he is honest, but what has that to do with it?" The next day the peacemaker called on Thompson and said, "Do you know that Brown said that you are a very honest man?" "You don't mean it," said Thompson. "I do mean it. I heard him say it with my own ears!"

The next Sunday, Brown and Thompson sat together in church, rejoicing in each other's fellowship!

It is no great matter to associate with the good and gentle, for this is naturally pleasing to all, and everyone willingly enjoyeth peace and loveth those best that agree with him. But to be able to live peaceably with hard and perverse people, or with such as go contrary to us, is a great grace, and a most commendable thing.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Scripture Reading—1 Samuel 6-10

I HAVE THE GOD OF PEACE!

The following conversation ensued between two men: "I'm glad to tell you," said one, "that I've got peace with God at last. I've taken Jesus Christ as my Saviour."

"I'm glad to hear that," said the other, "but I've got something better than that."

"Better than peace with God?" asked the first in surprise.

"Yes," was the reply, "for I have not only peace with God, but I have the peace of God."

"I see," said the first, "that is better."

"But wait a minute; I have something better still," went on his friend.

"What do you mean?"

"Why," was the answer, "I have the God of peace."

Jesus, Deliverer, come Thou to me,
Soothe Thou my voyaging over life's sea.
Then when the storm of death roars sweeping by,
Whisper, O Truth of Truth, "Peace, it is I."

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Scripture Reading—1 Samuel 11-14

ONE DAY AT A TIME

One day at a time, with its failures and fears,
With its hurts and mistakes, with its weakness and tears,
With its portion of pain and its burden of care;
One day at a time we must meet and must bear.

One day at a time—but the day is so long—
And the heart is not brave and the soul is not strong.
O Thou merciful Christ, be Thou near all the way;
Give courage and patience and strength for the day.

Swift cometh His answer, so clear and so sweet:
"Yea, I will be with thee, thy troubles to meet;
I will not forget thee, nor fail thee, nor grieve;
I will not forsake thee; I never will leave."

One day at a time, and the day is His day;
He hath numbered its hours, though they haste or delay.
His grace is sufficient, we walk not alone;
As the day, so the strength that He giveth His own.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

LAYMEN TO MEET

The Western Conference Layman's League Convention will meet at Trinity Church, Clayton, on Monday, February 21. The meeting will convene at 7:30 p.m.

All Western Conference laymen are urged to attend.

For February 20

SUFFERING CRUCIFIXION

Lesson Text: Luke 23:32-46
Memory Verse: Luke 23:46

I. INTRODUCTION

From the viewpoint of the one suffering Crucifixion, Psalm 22:1-18 reflects the experience with a vividness not matched even in the Gospels. Read it. You will be amazed as you compare it with the Gospel accounts, and you will gasp as you hear the words of the victim.

"The assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet" (v. 16).

"All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, He trusted on the Lord that he would deliver him; let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him" (vv. 7, 8; compare Matthew 27:41-43).

After Jesus' Last Supper with His disciples, He continued in fervent conversation with them as they went together out from Jerusalem to the Garden of Gethsemane on the nearer slope of the Mount of Olives. Going a little way from them, Jesus agonized in prayer and received strength for the ordeals ahead. There Judas, the betrayer, led a band of temple guards, who bound Jesus and led Him away to trial, first in the house of Annas, then in the court of the high priest, Caiaphas, and finally before the Sanhedrin. There He was condemned as a blasphemer for acknowledging himself the Son of God. But the Jews could not carry out a death sentence, so they took Him before the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, who found Him innocent and sought to release Him, but without jeopardizing Pilate's own position. That led to Jesus' being taken before Herod, who represented Rome in Jesus' home territory, Galilee. Herod sent Him back to Pilate, whose efforts to free Jesus met increasing pressure. Pilate finally authorized the Crucifixion of Jesus and delivered Him to a soldier-guard for that purpose.

"I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me," said Jesus. And John the apostle explained, "This he said, signifying what death he should die" (John 12:32, 33). As a king, Jesus went to the Cross. Announced as a king, He was lifted up to die. And dying, He convinced those nearest to Him that He is coming again in His kingdom.

Jesus' enemies had heard Him speak of that kingdom. They scoffed at the idea, but twisted the claim to destroy and humiliate Him. Pilate heard that Jesus was king, and he announced to the world that the King of the Jews was dying. One of the crucified robbers believed that He is a King, and begged for a hearing with Him in His coming kingdom. A centurion in charge of the Crucifixion saw Him die and declared, "This man was the Son of God."

With what voice will *you* refer to the dying Saviour as King? With skeptical derision, with noncommittal report, or with humble submission?—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. Everything in the life and death of our Lord is important, but there is nothing more important than His death. If the enemies of Christianity could just somehow prove that Jesus never died, they would have destroyed the source of our salvation—His shed blood, and the source of our eternal life—His Resurrection. It is important that Jesus died on Calvary.

B. Many people have studied the trials of Jesus and have concluded that the whole affair was a farce. The leaders among the Jews knew exactly what they wanted to do with Jesus before the trial. It is interesting to note that neither Pilate or Herod could find any fault with Him; yet He was crucified.

C. When Jesus prayed that the Father would forgive those who crucified Him, He set an example for us and held up a standard for us to try to attain. So many of God's people have not learned how to forgive. We seem anxious to receive forgiveness, but we are not willing to give it. Yet when Jesus taught His disciples to pray, He taught them to pray, "Forgive us as we forgive others."

D. The three hours of darkness that came when Jesus was on the Cross is one of several miracles connected with the Crucifixion. It was not a local thing, but it extended over "all the earth." But when you think of it, what else could there be when men are killing Him who is the Light of the world? Darkness is always the result when men and women put Jesus Christ out of their lives.

E. When Jesus was crucified there was a great multitude of people watching. In that crowd there were all kinds of people. They not only watched Him, but they derided Him. Even the soldiers who did the work of crucifixion joined in this. Before we condemn them, ask yourself this question: "What would I have done if I had been in that crowd watching Jesus being crucified?"

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The hands of Christ
  Seem very frail
For they were broken
  By a nail.
But only they
  Reach Heaven at last
Whom these frail, broken
  Hands hold fast.

—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 8)

20, at 11 a.m. At 9:45 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes.

During his visit, President Raper will review plans for Mount Olive's transition to four-year status.

The pastor of Bethel Church is the Rev. John Raeford Lee.

CORRECTION FOR FEBRUARY 2, 1983, ISSUE

Jerry Allen Sr., pastor of Robert's Grove Church, should have been listed under the ministerial students for 1982-83.

NEW CREATIONS TO SING

The New Creations, a gospel music and witnessing team from Mount Olive College, will be at Free Union Church, Spring Hope, for the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, February 20.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Schedule of Meetings for 1983

Winter Meeting	February 22	2:30 p.m.
Spring Meeting	May 3	2:30 p.m.
Summer Meeting	August 30	2:30 p.m.
Fall Meeting	November 22	9:30 a.m.

All meetings of the Board, unless otherwise announced, are held in the Sawyer Room of Moye Library on the New Campus.

CONFERENCE

(Continued from Page 6)

Dr. Dale earned his B.A. at Oklahoma Baptist University; his B.D. and Ph. D. at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. He has done post-doctoral study at Southern Methodist University and Kansas University.

Ministers and wives make plans to be with us on Friday, February 18, at Everett Chapel Church, Clayton, for the buffet meal and a very interesting and informative program! Hope to see each of you there!

De Wayne Eakes, *President*
NC Minister's Association of Original Free Will Baptists

HOME MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 11)

PEE DEE

Beaverdam	$ 1,200.00
Cypress Creek	67.74
Mount Calvary	40.00
Oak Grove	450.60
Pee Dee Union Number 1	25.00
Total	$ 1,783.34

PIEDMONT

East Rockingham	$ 266.53
Heritage Mission	4.60
Highland Pines	148.00
Holy Cross	50.00
Total	$ 469.13

WESTERN

Barnes Hill	$ 400.00
Calvary	45.00
Durham, First	20.00
Everett Chapel	375.34
Flood's Chapel	12.00
Free Union	20.00
Fremont	200.00
Friendship	150.00
Kenly	33.10
Little Rock	200.00
Marsh Swamp	80.20
Micro	32.80
Milbournie	75.00
Mount Zion (Nash County)	25.00
Mount Zion (Wilson County)	20.00
Oak Grove	87.07
People's Chapel	60.00
Pine Level	30.00
Piney Grove	81.25
Pleasant Grove	500.00
Pleasant Hill	10.00
Pleasant Plain	135.00
Rains Cross Roads	125.00
Rosebud	18.63
St. Mary's	225.00
Sherron Acres	150.00
Spring Hill	250.00
Stancil's Chapel	210.00
Stoney Creek	2,484.00
Union Chapel	53.61
Union Grove	204.00
Wilson, First	293.43
First Union Meeting	100.00
First District Sunday School Convention	61.00
Second Union Meeting	80.00
Youth Fellowship	25.00
Total	$ 6,871.43
Earmarked for H'mong Work In Memory of Forrest Pope by	
Barnes Sr., Mr. and Mrs. William	$ 25.00
Overman, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence	15.00
Total	$ 40.00
Earmarked for H'mong Work In Memory of Reda Mae Harber by	
Buck, Mrs. Ruby	$ 10.00
Christakis, Joan C.	50.00
Claiborne, Mr. and Mrs. Bill	15.00
Hooks, Mr. and Mrs. John	20.00
Penzer, George and Carolyn	10.00
Shackleford Funeral Service	25.00
Waterford Baptist Cathedral Michigan	100.00
Total	$ 230.00
Total Contributions for Second Quarter	$22,848.79

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 7)

represented. They also told what their youth were doing.

After all of the churches had a part on the program, refreshments were served.

The next fellowship of the Third Union will be held on February 19, at Cabin Church, at 7:30 p.m.

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Bobby Brown will be available for full-time pastoral duties April 7, 1983. He is in good standing with the Eastern Conference. He may be contacted at Route 1, Box 194, Cove City, North Carolina 28523; phone, 919-633-3367.

Mount Tabor Church, Creswell, is in need of a pastor for full-time services. Anyone interested should contact Fentress Simmons at 797-4448.

PLEASE NOTE

The Rev. Walter Reynolds has resigned as Director/Treasurer of the North Carolina State Convention Board of Superannuation, effective June 30, 1983.

There will be a meeting of the membership of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation on February 22, 1983, in the Multipurpose Room of the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden. The meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m.

"Can I really overcome my failures?"

We're all afraid of failure. In fact, we don't even like to admit it when we do fail.

But failure doesn't have to signify the end. It can, in reality, become a new beginning.

HOW TO FAIL SUCCESSFULLY, a new book by Jill Briscoe, author of number of books including PRIME RIB AND APPLE, will enable you to face the certainty of failure, and turn every failure into a resounding victory. The common shortcomings of carnality... a bad self-image... pride... and prayerlessness can be transformed into purpose and power.

You can do much more than overcome failure... you can use it as a springboard to a new winning life... in Christ.

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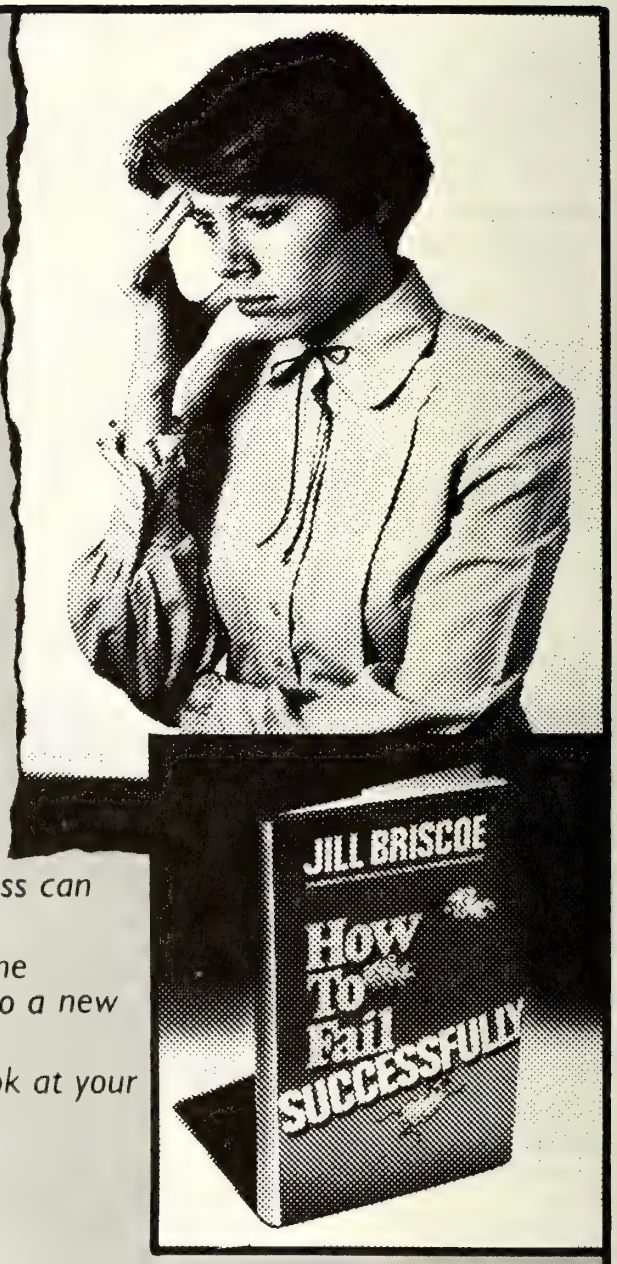

Available through the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and its branch bookstores—New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston and Whiteville.

D.S.
(f)F857wf

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1983,
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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February 23, 1983
Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

Editorial

We All Hurt!

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus—There's just something about that name.
Master, Saviour, Jesus—Like the fragrance after the rain.
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus—Let all Heaven and earth proclaim:
Kings and kingdoms will all pass away,
But there's something about that name.

Jesus! The mere mention of His name can calm the storm, heal the broken, raise the dead. At the name of Jesus, I've seen sin-hardened men melted, derelicts transformed, the lights of hope put back into the eyes of a hopeless child. At the name of Jesus, hatred and bitterness turn to love and forgiveness . . . arguments cease.

I've heard a mother softly breathe His name at the bedside of a child delirious from fever; and I've watched that little body grow quiet, and the fevered brow cool. I've sat beside a dying saint—her body wracked with pain—who, in those final fleeting seconds, summoned her last ounce of ebbing strength to whisper earth's sweetest name: Jesus . . . Jesus!

Emperors have tried to destroy it . . . philosophers have tried to stamp it out . . . tyrants have tried to wash it from the face of the earth with the very blood of those who claimed it. Yet, still it stands. And there shall be that final day, when every voice that has ever uttered a sound, every voice of Adam's race, shall rise in one great mighty chorus to proclaim the name of Jesus. For in that day, "every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!"

Kings and kingdoms will all pass away, But there's something about that name.

Yes, there **is** something about that name. But have you ever stopped to think how the name of Jesus is used, and mostly abused? I will admit that it is used in worship situations; but it is spoken more often in profane tones and with wrong intent.

Just think, in the name of Christianity, some of the greatest of all flimflams have been pulled off. Evangelists, preachers, and religious organizations have sold everything from imprinted sheets to holy water. The bank accounts of many "religious persons" have been padded when those who knew no better pinched and scraped and sent their last dimes when appeals were made. I even read recently of missionaries who went to a foreign field to serve for several years. While gone, they lived in a home better than the one they left behind in the States and fared much better than those who sent them overseas. These particular people never went out of their home to preach and spent what seemed to be several years on an all-expense-paid vacation. (I always thought missionaries were called to serve God by spreading the gospel; I didn't know their calling was for self!)

(Continued on Page 5)

THE PEARL R. AND MILTON L. JOHNSON SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

The Rev. M. L. Johnson
(1915-1969)

Mrs. Pearl R. Johnson
116 Saint Mary's Street
Apartment 209
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

The Pearl R. and Milton L. Johnson Scholarship Endowment was established April 18, 1982, in a special service at Marsh Swamp Church in Wilson County. The Endowment is an expression of appreciation by many friends and relatives of the Johnsons for their long and dedicated services to Original Free Will Baptists.

The service was planned under the leadership of the Rev. Ray Wells, pastor, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Barnes, neighbors of the Johnsons during their tenure in the church parsonage. Mr. Johnson served as pastor of Marsh Swamp for twelve years (1945-57) during which time the parsonage was built, the church building was completely remodeled, enlarged and brick-veneered, and full-time services were begun.

While pastor of Marsh Swamp Church, Mr. Johnson became the first treasurer of Mount Olive College when it was chartered in 1951. He performed this service on a part-time basis until 1957 when he resigned the church and moved to Mount Olive to become the first Business Manager of the College. He continued in this capacity until 1961 at which time he resigned to resume pastoral services, this time at Holly Springs Church, Newport, North Carolina. In 1962 he was elected superintendent of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home at Middlesex where he remained until his death on February 11, 1969.

Johnson was an indefatigable worker who was fiercely loyal to the beliefs and practices of Original Free Will Baptists. His wide range of services to the church included serving as president and promotional director of the North Carolina State Convention, moderator of the Western Conference during the most decisive period in its history, secretary-treasurer of Church Finance Association and the Board of Superannuation. These positions were concurrent with his pastorate of some of the leading churches in eastern North Carolina. There is little doubt but that these heavy duties and often stressful

(Continued on Page 10)

NEWS FROM THE EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH FRONT

TO: *ALL YOUTH AND YOUTH LEADERS OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT*

Greetings to each of you in the name of our Lord! Once again it is time to begin preparing for the Spring Eastern District Youth Convention. We will meet *Saturday, March 19, 1983,* at *Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church* near Pink Hill. The convention will begin at 9:30 a.m. There is a $5 registration fee for each church.

Be sure to bring or mail earlier your Youth Chairman's Report. This report is found on Page 11 of *The Youth Leader in 1983.* The youth chairman of each church will mail or bring this report to me. I will compile all the reports and send to our State Youth Chairman.

Our special guests for the day will be the "New Creations" from Mount Olive College. We look forward to their program of music and testimony.

We will have our District Competitions at this Spring Convention. We will have the categories of Christian Writing, Public Speaking, Lesson Presentation, and the Bible Bowl Quiz. Information concerning the rules and guidelines for these competitions can be found on Pages 13-18 of *The Youth Leader in 1983.* If you do not have a copy of this valuable and helpful guide, it can be purchased from the Free Will Baptist Press, along with the YFA and AFC Program Books, *Hidden Treasure.*

SOMETHING NEW!

In addition to the above competitions, there will be a category for Arts and Crafts. The divisions are: Woodwork; Needlework and Macrame; Painting and Drawing; Ceramics and Pottery; and Miscellaneous.

(Continued on Page 15)

News & Notes

ST. PAUL CHURCH PRESENTS CANTATA

Choir of St. Paul Church

The people of St. Paul Church in Elizabeth City presented their first cantata, "Rejoice, O, Earth," during the December 26 morning worship services. A copy of the presentation was made available on cassette tapes to the sick and shut-ins. The choir is under the direction of the Rev. Joe Griffith, with Mrs. Rae Griffith as the pianist.

Current Happenings at Oak Grove Church

A Senior Citizens Supper was held on January 22, at Oak Grove Church, Elm City. It was held in the fellowship building and was sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary. Seventeen guests attended.

Revival services will be held at the church, February 21-25. The speaker will be the Rev. Arnold Price. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Clarence Harris. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Youth Holds Fifth Sunday Service

The AFCs and Cherubs of Hickory Grove Church of Bethel held the morning worship service on Sunday, January 30, 1983. Each youth presented a poem or essay on "Love," written especially by them. In addition to essays and poems they presented a program of music. The people at Hickory Grove Church are especially proud of their youth.

Revival Services to Be Held At Sandy Plain Church

Revival services will be held at Sandy Plain Church, Route 2, Pink Hill, the week of February 28 through March 4. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each evening. A nursery will be available. The Rev. Mike Scott is the evangelist. The Rev. Ransom McAbee is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend.

Central Conference Layman's League to Meet

The Central Conference Layman's League will meet on Monday, February 28, at Free Union Church, Route 2, Walstonburg. The time of the service is 8 p.m.

The Free Will Baptist Historical Society met at Mount Olive College and elected officers for 1983. Attending the meeting were (seated, from left to right) the Rev. Adrian Grubbs, pastor of Deep Run Church; the Rev. Edmundo Gonzalez, pastor of Rains Cross Roads Church; Ruth Warrick; and Louise Edgerton; (standing) the Rev. Frank Harrison, College Chaplain; the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, pastor of LaGrange Church; Fay Evans; Mitzi Hobgood; Leah McGlohon; the Rev. James Evans, pastor of Memorial Church in Chocowinity; the Rev. Bill Futch, pastor of Bethlehem Church; Dr. Michael Pelt, chairman of the humanities division at MOC; and College Librarian Gary Barefoot.

New officers for 1983 are as follows: President, Edmundo Gonzalez; Vice President, Ronnie Hobgood; Secretary, Gary Barefoot; and Treasurer, Pam Wood. Dr. Michael Pelt presented the program, "Free Will Baptists from the 1900's through the 1920's."

Moye Library at Mount Olive College is the repository for the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection.

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

Such inconsistencies have been denounced for years. But let's think about the many wars that have been fought in the name of Christ. No, I'm not in reference to holy wars. The battles of which I speak are the below-the-belt fights (otherwise known as scandals) that are so commonplace today. Punches are thrown every time two "Christians" do not see eye-to-eye on issues; and church politics are dirtier than those which are a part of the secular world. While the wars rage, people are used, sides drawn, friends alienated—all because people do not agree. Why is this necessary? Do we feel threatened, challenged? I don't think any of us think we are perfect; so surely we must know we can and do make mistakes. I was always taught that when people had differences they were to work them out together; I didn't know we were supposed to do people in!

What happens when we do such things (in the name of Christ)? Well, very simply, we all hurt—the cause of Christ, the Church of Christ, Christians everywhere lose their credibility; and Christ is mocked! When it comes down to the bottom line, today's Christians are known for their flimflams, their scandals, their disagreements, their fights, and their suits—not for their love. What a witness!

Lord, I'm sorry.

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

What does it take to be a successful Christian leader? How might I be useful to God and at the same time gain a greater sense of satisfaction from what I do? What is God's will for me? How can I discover His will?

Dr. Bruce Powers addresses such questions in his book, *Christian Leadership.* It was published by Broadman Press in 1979. The author is Associate Professor of Christian Education, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest. He provides individual and group exercises to be used in our attempt to answer these important questions. This book can be read with great benefit by teachers, deacons, pastors, and every person in a leadership position in the church.

"Effective leadership," writes Dr. Powers, "is not so much a goal to be achieved as it is a means, or a life-style, that must be developed. It is a way of living that finds great variety in expression yet always focuses on bringing Christians into a maturing relationship with Jesus Christ. This involves growing personally and helping others grow into all that they are capable of becoming, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

This book can be ordered through one of our bookstores.

(NEXT WEEK: Teaching Methods.)

OUR APOLOGIES . . .

Our typesetting equipment has been down for over a week. As a result, we have been unable to meet printing deadlines. We appreciate your being understanding in this matter, and hope your next issue will reach you on time.

Thank you.

Janie Sowers

IRS to Revoke Ministers' Double Break for Housing

Ministers buying their own houses will no longer be permitted the double benefit of a tax-exempt housing allowance plus tax deductions for mortgage interest and property taxes under a new Internal Revenue Service ruling.

The new ruling, set to take effect no later than June 30, 1983, disallows ministers a federal income tax deduction for any portion of mortgage interest and real estate taxes for which they have received a tax-exempt housing allowance. In cases where the housing expenses are greater than the housing allowance involved, a portion of the interest and taxes will remain deductible.

The IRS action revokes a 1962 revenue ruling which specifically permitted such deductions even though the law also entitled ministers to a housing allowance exclusion.

Revenue rulings are issued by IRS to provide administrative solutions to problems encountered in interpreting and applying tax laws consistently in individual cases. Such rulings may be overruled by Congress or by future administrative review and revision.

Based on a section of the IRS code designed to prohibit double tax benefits, the new ruling also bars veterans and other students from deducting education expenses when they have received tax-exempt veterans benefits or scholarships to pay those education costs.

Explaining the stark reversal of IRS position, a spokesman for the nation's tax-collecting agency said the 1962 ruling was an "interpretation of how IRS saw the law at that time."

Since then, the spokesman said, individual cases where IRS has disallowed double benefit deductions have accumulated and the new ruling represents an effort to "be consistent" in its application and interpretation of the law which bars double tax breaks.

Specifically, the law (Section 265 of the IRS code) disallows normally deductible expenses for which a taxpayer has received tax-exempt income.

The IRS spokesman also pointed to court cases where IRS application of Section 265's ban on double benefits has been upheld.

In announcing the revenue ruling, an IRS publication cited a United States Supreme Court decision that the Internal Revenue code, "should not be interpreted to allow . . . 'the practical equivalent of double deductions' . . . absent a clear declaration of intent by Congress."

Although the spokesman said it would be "risky" to predict IRS would never return to its former interpretation of the law, he emphasized the new ruling is based on a thorough review of congressional intent in writing Section 265.

For ministers, the new ruling will take effect at the end of their current contract year, or by June 30, whichever comes first.—BP, *Biblical Recorder,* January 22, 1983)

WORKING TOGETHER

by R. P. Harris

Please read 2 Corinthians 1:11.

By working together we learn to help each other rather than to hinder. We are encouraged to brace ourselves to triumph over hindrances. A church whose members work together will find it a pleasant endeavour. Many churches are like physically handicapped people; they must learn to do the job under very difficult circumstances. Compare your physical freedom and potential to a person who has only one hand or no hands, only one foot or no feet. If you are given to complaining about having to buy shoes for your child, wait until you see a child with no feet at all.

Note the variety of work: There are numerous endeavours to be reached, and working together will help achieve them in good taste. Working together will also discipline the workers and build Christian character.

Cragmont

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS JANUARY, 1983

RECEIPTS

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE	
Albemarle Union	$ 21.58
Mount Tabor	77.25
St. Paul	25.00
Mount Zion	31.27
Sidney	107.51
Total	$ 262.61
CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE	
Hopewell	$ 89.91
Total	$ 89.91
CENTRAL CONFERENCE	
Marlboro	$ 358.75
Central District Youth	30.00
Tarboro, First	250.00
Hugo	125.00
King's Cross Roads	6.90
Friendship	25.00
Black Jack	50.00
Rose Hill	75.00
Otter's Creek	24.11
Grimsley	50.00
Hickory Grove Sunday School	40.00
Winterville	60.17
Rocky Mount, First	50.00
Greenville Christian Service Women	10.00
Willing Workers	20.00
Total	$1,174.93
EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Welcome Home	$ 20.00
Davis	25.00
Saints Delight	150.00
St. Mary's	265.00
Snow Hill	100.00
Jackson Heights	121.40
Folkstone	300.00
Holly Springs	500.00
Pilgrims Rest	5.00
Total	$1,486.50
PIEDMONT CONFERENCE	
Highland Pines	$ 128.00
Heritage Mission	70.06
Total	$ 198.06
WESTERN CONFERENCE	
Little Rock	$ 5.06
Sherron Acres	400.00
Flood's Chapel	5.00
Milbournie	37.50
Free Union	50.00
Selma	25.00
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Total	$ 622.56
OTHERS	
Irene Gordon	$ 10.00
Verena Johnson	200.00
Anonymous	600.00

(Continued on Page 15)

Woman's Auxiliary

Treasurer's Report, End of Third Quarter, January 31, 1983

Balance Brought Forward, October 31, 1982			$ 4,678.07
Receipts			
General Fund:			
Contributions	$ 20.00		
Life Award Fees	50.00		
Promotional Fund (CSF)	146.46		
Per Capita Dues	1.60		
Interest	157.64	$ 375.70	
Denominational Enterprises		11,657.88	
Total Receipts			12,033.58
Total for Which to Account			$16,711.65
Disbursements			
Convention Expenses and Allocations		$ 339.22	
Denominational Enterprises		11,657.88	
Total Disbursed			11,997.10
Balance to Account for, January 31, 1983			$ 4,714.55
Summary			
Branch Banking and Trust Company (checking)			$ 1,714.55
Mount Olive College Bonds			3,000.00
			$ 4,714.55

Denominational Enterprises Report

	Itemized	Disbursed	Received
Home Missions (State Project)		$ 1,276.54	$ 1,276.54
Foreign Missions:			
General Fund	$ 860.84		
Mexico	175.00		
Timmons Memorial Fund	251.95		
Books for Philippines	25.00		
India pastor	60.00		
State Project (Missionary wives)	863.82	2,236.61	2,236.61
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	62.00		
Alice Lupton Scholarship	19.50		
Anna Phillips Student Aid	107.41		
State Project (Dishwasher)	524.32	713.23	713.23
Children's Home:			
General Fund	2,698.40		
Child Support	275.00		
Music Lessons	45.00		
State Project (Media Center)	396.00	3,414.40	3,414.40
Superannuation		508.00	508.00
Cragmont Assembly		1,721.00	1,721.00
Retirement Homes		335.00	335.00
Life Membership Fees (Mount Olive College)		125.00	125.00
Central Conference Missions		10.00	10.00
*Christian Service Fund:			
Missions	292.91		
Mount Olive College	292.91		
Children's Home	219.68		
Cragmont	219.68		
Superannuation	146.46		
Retirement Homes	146.46	1,318.10	1,318.10
Total		$11,657.88	$11,657.88

*10 per cent retained for promotional (see receipts $146.46)

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, *Treasurer*

MISSIONARIES APPOINTED TO INDIA
(God's Answer to Our Prayers)

The van der Plas Family

The Board of Foreign Missions and you, our prayer partners, have been praying for some time for God to bring forth a missionary family for India. How could God do this since it is almost impossible for an American citizen to get a visa to enter India? God's wisdom is above our wisdom. He brought a family (the Willem van der Plas family) to America from Holland, settled them in the Arapahoe Church and began to deal with them about the needs in India. A person with a European passport has much greater access to India than we who hold an American passport. After much prayer, this fine Christian family applied to our Board for service to India. The Board reviewed the preliminary application, formal application, references, medical reports, had an oral interview with them, and were convinced that this was God's family for India. So on November 29, 1982, they were approved as missionary appointees to India. God answered our prayers in His own beautiful way. (The delay in announcing this was at their request for business reasons). The van der Plas family became a part of our missionary family on February 3, 1983. They are available to visit your church. You will be blessed by these delightful people with such a strong and living testimony for Jesus Christ. Invite them today by contacting this office, or by contacting them at P.O. Box 25, Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510; phone: (919) 249-1242. Your prayers and support are necessary to send this family to India.

Harold Jones
Director

GREETINGS

by Willem van der Plas

First of all, we praise the Lord for the many blessings which He brought and brings in our life.

My wife, Lydia, and I, were born in the year that Adolf Hitler won the elections in Germany—1933. Our home was at Katwijk aan Zee, a small fishing village—8,000 inhabitants—on the North Sea coast in the Netherlands (Holland). We have known each other since our childhood and received our education in Christian schools. During the last year of World War II we suffered from poverty, lack of food, and hard oppression of the Nazis. Like others, we are still thankful to the people of the United States of America for their concern with the occupied world and the liberation in which so many Americans lost their lives.

To me it was this poverty and hardship which has helped us to build up our minds to the primary values of life: as a Christian to be obedient to the Lord and to serve God in this world, His world.

To work for the Foreign Missions, in areas in the world where people do not know the Christ of the Bible, has been on our minds since we were young.

In January 1957, we were married at Katwijk aan Zee and in that year our first son, Herman Rhijn, was born. He is in the Netherlands working for the County Hulst in the office of Social Development, as an advisor for all varieties of associations which need all types of information. By education, he is graduated as a teacher, but since unemployment is extremely high in teaching jobs, he accepted every other job possible to earn a living. When we left the Netherlands he took over my

work as a youth leader in the Dutch Reformed Church. He works with teenagers especially to serve and worship God in the way they can follow and understand.

In 1959, our second son, Martin Willem, was born. At present, he is a high school teacher and is graduated in English and World History. Together with other young people who will worship with heart and soul our Lord Jesus Christ, he organizes assemblies.

Both our oldest sons were students of an American high school for missionary children at Kijabe, near Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, East Africa. That was from 1970 'til 1975 during our mission period at Turkana, Kenya. They enjoyed this American school very much and were fond of the sporting programs like rugby, baseball and football. With pleasure they joined these teams.

In the second part of the sixties we had two more children: Caroline, our daughter, in 1966; and Dirk, our third son, in 1969. These two children are with us in the United States of America and they like it here very much.

My wife, Lydia, worked after secondary school in a sanatorium for the patients. She was a secretary and took care of salary administration. Many of the patients did not receive visitors on weekends because they had to come from great distances and it was rather expensive to travel so far. Some got visitors twice a year. We started to visit those people, who were often lonely, during Sunday afternoons. Due to Lydia's activities and presence at the hospital, our local pastors started church sermons. It was non-denominational church work because the patients came out of all kinds of churches and many of them did not go to church at all before.

She also served the Boy Scouts for many years as an Akela and the scouts did not appreciate that I took her away from them by marriage in 1957. We went to Zevenhuizen near Rotterdam, where I became a teacher of a small Christian elementary school. In this school I became a principal.

In 1965 the school board of my birthplace asked me to serve them in a new school project. Within three years we set up two large Christian schools in an entire new city quarter. The population grew fast, up to over 40,000. Sincere work and Christian attitude gave us a lot of confidence so every year we received more pupils.

Just before Christmas 1968 we got a strong call to serve our Lord in Turkana, Kenya. The mission board I joined was the GZB (fundamental Dutch Reformed Church). Our destiny was Turkana, a remote rural area, a kind of semi-desert which borders on the Sudan, Ethiopia and Uganda. Sometimes it was hard to reach Turkana because we had to pass an escarpment without proper roads, and there were no bridges over the rivers.

In the whole district of Turka were 3 mission stations during my time. It was a blessed time for all of us. And we learned that all the problems were solved before the needs became unbearable because the Lord provides. Just at the times we got desperate, not knowing what to do, the Lord was there and gave all we needed, like food for the school kids, evangelists and pastors for the various locations, approvals of the government for all kinds of business, etc. Never did we feel that we sacrificed, and we were able to follow our Master who sacrificed Himself. We only had to follow Him and to trust on His presence.

The Lord knows how many people we were able to guide to faith; we did not feel the need to count them. More important was to teach the converts and share the joy of faith with them.

In 1975 we were back in Holland and the Lord provided again. I received a principal's post in Oostburg in a Christian elementary school.

My wife wanted to study, but she had to have her high school certificate and as a mother of 4 children she went to the same school as Martin. They both graduated in the same year and both made high scores at the final exams. While Martin went to study in Delft, Lydia travelled several times a week to Middelburg and studied Dutch language in order to graduate as a high school teacher. She got a part-time job as a teacher in the high school of the same school board I worked for.

After Africa, we could not understand why people calling themselves Christians complained about so many wordly facts, not seeing the blessing of the Lord in their lives.

In our church the highest attendance was only sixty-plus people. The traditional preaching no longer had our interest, and we were happy to join now and then the Free Evangelics in their church, where I brought the message when their pastor was away. Due to my school position I was supposed to attend the Reformed Church.

Finally we decided to take a job offer given to us by a Dutch fish company, which exports live eels from North Carolina to Europe. After searching and moving around a bit we landed at the Free Will Baptist Church of Arapahoe. Our children enjoyed the preaching (this was very important for me) and so did we. We decided to stay in that church.

Dirk, our youngest son, was the first to join the Free Will Baptist Church and he was baptized in 1980.

We needed more time, because our roots in the Dutch Reformed Church were strong. Lydia and I, served in this church many years, I as youth

(Turn the Page)

leader and Lydia as Sunday school leader. However, we felt at home in the Arapahoe Church and we cannot explain the kind care and love of the Arapahoe Free Will Baptist folks. We praise God very often for knowing them all.

In 1981, we joined the church. After our vacation in January 1982, we decided to ask our pastor to be baptized, knowing that this baptism is a scriptural baptism.

During the whole Sunday of our baptism, I felt the Spirit of God so strong with us that this day became very special to me. And being baptized I could only whisper to our pastor, the Rev. Doug Skinner, "Praise the Lord." We are very thankful to our God, who opened the Scriptures to us, and to our pastor for his guidance and patience with us. To leave a church is not like changing an old pair of shoes.

The contact with the Rev. Harold Jones in December, 1981, made me aware that the Lord wanted us back in His field. Last summer, a warm day, our pastor took us to the Rev. Harold Jones at Ayden. He explained the character of the work in the different fields. After praying and searching the Scriptures we were certain that the Lord wanted us to work in India or elsewhere.

The Lord has shown us several ways we could go, and we really are excited and happy with the decision of the Board during their meeting on November 29, 1982, to accept us as candidates for mission work in India.

We beg you all to pray for us, that we may become faithful and worthy servants in the Lord's Kingdom.

Please pray for our family, our children in Holland and here in the United States of America.

Willem van der Plas

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 3)

responsibilities contributed to his early death at the age of 53.

The Endowment

The Johnson Endowment will help to carry on a work to which Mr. Johnson devoted some of the best years of his life. His belief in Mount Olive College was expressed in his letter of resignation dated February 9, 1961:

> These ten years have brought a very precious personal reward to my family. Mrs. Johnson and I have two daughters. When the older one was ready to enter college, our denomination did not have a college that could offer the training she desired. We knew what it was to ask a college sponsored by a sister denomination to train our child. This year our younger child is a freshman at Mount Olive Junior College, a college sponsored by our own denomination and one which enjoys the highest degree of accreditation possible for a junior college. To us, the outstanding success of Mount Olive Junior College has been a prayer answered and a precious dream come true.
>
> I firmly believe that Mount Olive College presents to Original Free Will Baptists the greatest opportunity of our history.

The Endowment is also a tribute to Mrs. Johnson for her work as Food Service Manager and for her faithful support of the College through the years.

Assets of the Johnson Endowment currently total approximately $2,500, but the Fund is open to receive additional gifts from friends and churches who may wish to express their appreciation for the services which Pearl and M. L. Johnson have rendered Original Free Will Baptists. (Checks should be made payable to Mount Olive College and earmarked "Johnson Endowment." Gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law. The mailing address is: Office of the President, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365.)

Previous gifts have been made by individual friends, family members and by Marsh Swamp and Little Rock Churches. The Rev. Ray Wells expressed the thoughts of many when he said:

> We at the Marsh Swamp Church are glad to be instrumental in paying tribute to the Rev. and Mrs. M. L. Johnson. Their dedication to this church and our denomination is worthy of our gratitude and remembrance.

In addition to Little Rock, Marsh Swamp, and Holly Springs, other churches served by the Rev. and Mrs. Johnson included Spring Branch in Greene County; Pine Level, Riverside, and Bethel in Johnston County; Union Grove, Casey's Chapel, Indian Springs, and Saint John's Chapel in Wayne County; Shady Grove in Durham County; Whaley's Chapel in Jones County; and Snow Hill in Duplin County.

Mr. Johnson was ordained in 1933 at Casey's Chapel. He was a native of Johnston County and held his first membership at Hopewell Church. Mrs. Johnson is the former Pearl Reardon and held her first membership at Snow Hill Church. The Johnsons were married September 30, 1933. They have two children, Mrs. Glenda J. (William) Moody and Miss Wanda Johnson, both of whom are public school teachers in Wake County.

JAMES H. BABB PRESENTS CHECK

James H. Babb, (left) manager of Sears in Goldsboro, presents a check for $400 to Mount Olive College President W. Burkette Raper. Mount Olive is one of over 1,000 private educational institutions across the country which are sharing in $1.5 million in unrestricted grants from the Sears-Roebuck Foundation.

FORMATION OF CHORAL SOCIETY

Pastors, choir directors, organists, pianists, and others interested in good music should plan to attend the organizational meeting for the Free Will Baptist Choral Society on Saturday, March 5, in Rodgers Chapel at Mount Olive College. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. and end at noon.

Dr. Leonard Earl Harris of Rocky Mount, will present the overall plan for developing a Choral Society.

Participating churches will select cantatas and anthems for special occasions in their local services. Prior to their performances, the director of the Choral Society will meet with the local church musicians to assist them with rehearsals.

At least once a year, these church choirs will perform as a group during a state-wide presentation by the Choral Society.

NEW CREATIONS' SCHEDULE

On Sunday, February 27, the New Creations, a gospel music and witnessing team from Mount Olive College, will be at Oak Grove Church near Elm City, at 11 a.m.; and at the First Church of Smithfield at 7 p.m.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker for the 11 a.m. service at Hickory Chapel, near Ahoskie, on Sunday, February 27.

At 10 a.m. he will teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes.

The Rev. Robert May is pastor of Hickory Chapel Church.

COURSE ON CHURCH ADMINISTRATION TO BE OFFERED

The Rev. Frank R. Harrison will teach a course entitled "Church Administration" on Mondays, March 14—May 2, from 8 p.m.-9:45 p.m. on the Mount Olive College campus (Henderson Building, Room 109).

The course may be taken for credit at a cost of $20 or for non-credit at a cost of $10. "Church Administration" carries one semester hour of college credit or three hours of credit for those enrolled in the Paul Palmer Institute.

Registration can be completed at the first class meeting.

CHURCH-GROWTH CONFERENCE AT MOC: MARCH 10, 11

The College is cooperating with the Home Missions Board in sponsoring a "Church-Growth Conference" again this year. Detailed information will be mailed by the Missions Board, but we encourage you to reserve these two days for a good experience.

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Joseph A. Lehmann announces that he is available for supply or pastoral work beginning the first of March. He may be contacted at 753-3527. His address is 407 East Church Street, Farmville, North Carolina 27828.

The Rev. D. T. Cleve announces that he is available for pastoral work. His address is P.O. Box 1406, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557; phone, 726-7742.

The Rev. Bobby Brown will be available for full-time pastoral duties April 7, 1983. He is in good standing with the Eastern Conference. He may be contacted at Route 1, Box 194, Cove City, North Carolina 28523; phone, (919) 633-3367.

NOTICE

The Rev. Al Markuson has been reinstated to the list of ordained ministers of the Cape Fear Conference and is cleared to pastor churches within the Cape Fear Conference.

Davie Brinson, *Secretary*
Cape Fear Conference
Ordaining Council

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Scripture Reading—1 Samuel 15-17

I WIPED AWAY THE BLOOD AND WENT RIGHT ON

One day John Wesley preached to a great throng in an outdoor meeting. He pleaded with the unsaved to flee from the wrath to come. Later Wesley said, "Many of the people acted like beasts and did their best to disturb the meeting. They tried to drive a herd of cows into the crowd, but without success. Then they began to throw stones—showers of them. One of them struck me between the eyes. I wiped away the blood, and went right on, declaring that God has given to them that believe, 'not the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.' By the spirit which now appeared . . . I saw what a blessing it is when it is given us, even in the lowest degree, to suffer for His name's sake!"

Great men are they who see that the spiritual is stronger than any material force; that thoughts rule the world.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Scripture Reading—1 Samuel 18-22

WORDS THAT CHANGE PEOPLE

One day, which happened to be a Jewish holiday, I was returning from Temple. At the time I was eleven. As I approached a corner, four boys challenged my progress and after making harsh comments about my holiday suit and my holiday appearance, beat me up.

When I got to my feet I wrapped my torn garments around me and made a headlong flight home, feeling extraordinarily sorry for myself. Why had I been chosen for this unprovoked attack?

My mother comforted me and began to clean me up. The words she spoke to me then have stayed with me all my life and prevented me from becoming cynical, bitter or disillusioned when events went against me. Her words went something like this:

"Son, it's the beatings you do not deserve that are always the hardest to bear. When you do something wrong and you are punished, it does little good because you know you did something wrong and you know you deserve the punishment. But when you take a beating for no reason at all, then you must be stronger and more patient because it is these beatings that will give you the understanding and strength to cope with life."

Many Christians estimate difficulties in the light of their own resources, and thus attempt little and often fail in the little they attempt. All God's giants have been weak men who did great things for God because they reckoned on His power and presence with them.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1

Scripture Reading—1 Samuel 23-28

NOT COUNTED WORTHY TO SUFFER

Some years ago Japan took over Korea. Many of the leading Christians were bitterly persecuted. Some were imprisoned in Japanese jails. Those who were not persecuted felt that they were somehow lacking in their Christianity. A native Methodist pastor went to a missionary and said, "Maksa, there must be something wrong with us Methodists. I fear that we are not living as godly as we ought to live. There are thirty-seven Presbyterians in jail and only one Methodist! Does not the Lord count us 'worthy to suffer shame for His name'?"

Just as sure as you keep drawing out your soul's currency without making new deposits, the next thing will be: "No funds." Soul deposits and checks must more than balance if we are to be spiritually dynamic.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

Scripture Reading—1 Samuel 29-31; 2 Samuel 1, 2

SHEEPSKINS AND GOATSKINS

What indignities and Satan-devised tortures have God's faithful ones suffered throughout the ages gone by! Could any mind, other than a depraved, Satan-possessed mind concoct a more cruel method of torture than the one depicted in the verse: "They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins" (Hebrews 11:37)? It is said that the "green" or unshrunken skins of these animals were sewn around the bodies of God's ancient heroes and that then they were banished to desert wastes. As the hot rays of the merciless sun shone upon them, the skins became dehydrated and shrunk more and more until the life of the encased victims were slowly crushed to death. Truly the world was not worthy of these illustrious worthies!

Their daring deeds of valour shame us who sacrifice too little for Him who gave His all for us!

THURSDAY, MARCH 3

Scripture Reading—2 Samuel 3-6

ORTHODOX BUT DEAD

In one of my churches was a former missionary to India. She was in the evening of life and was joyously and *actively* awaiting the summons to depart from this life and be forever with the Lord. She was living a beautiful and exemplary Christian life but, according to the reckoning of two elderly women in the church, she was in error in one phase of her belief. How those women persecuted her. With cold disdain, they looked down their Pharisaic noses on her. These women were thoroughly orthodox and established in the faith. There was little, however, of tenderness and Christlike compassion about them. They were devoid of the "milk of human kindness."

It is right for us to be orthodox, believing all of God's Word. But there is something radically wrong when our assenting to God's Word fails to produce in us the fruit of the Spirit: "Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." What havoc is wrought by loveless contenders of the faith!

There is little or nothing they can acceptably do for Christ when they have ceased loving Christ first. What is deader than dead orthodoxy? "Thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead!"

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

Scripture Reading—2 Samuel 7-11

NOISELESS BUT POWERFUL

Two men visited a factory. They were shown the rooms where huge machines were running and making much noise. Then the guide conducted the men to a smaller room. It was very quiet in there. One of the men asked, "There is not much going on here, is there?" The guide smiled and replied, "This is the most important room of all. This is where the power comes from to run the great machines. We call this room, 'the Quiet Room.'" The visitors looked in wonderment upon the great, almost noiseless dynamos!

The power room in our lives is the place where we daily meet with God. Here we receive power to meet the testings and temptations of life.

Christianity is not the truth on ice, but the truth on fire.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5

Scripture Reading—2 Samuel 12-16

GREATER PRESSURE—GREATER POWER

Some automobiles are equipped with motors of 325 horsepower. How is this increased power produced?

The cylinder head is milled, or ground, as much as a twenty-thousandth of an inch to give a smaller cubic inch displacement in the cylinder head of the engine. This results in an increase in the compression ratio and a substantial increase in horsepower. To say it more simply, the greater the pressure, the greater the power.

This is also true in the spiritual realm. The greater the pressure upon us, the greater is our realization of our helplessness, with the result that our dependence upon God is greater and we receive spiritual power. Said Paul, "We were pressed out of measure, above strength," that is, human strength. When thus pressed, we press closer to the One whose "strength is made perfect in weakness," and who gives us "more grace."

Pressed out of measure and pressed to all length,
Pressed so intensely it seems beyond strength;
Pressed in the body and pressed in the soul,
Pressed in the mind till the dark surges roll;
Pressure by foes, and pressure by friends,
Pressure on pressure, till life nearly ends;
Pressed into loving the staff and the rod,
Pressed into knowing no helper but God;
Pressed into liberty where nothing clings,
Pressed into faith for impossible things;
Pressed into living a life in the Lord,
Pressed into living a Christ-life outpoured!

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

CHURCH GROWTH CONFERENCE

March 10, 11, 1983

Mount Olive College

Sponsored by Free Will Baptist Home Missions Department

Sunday School Lesson

For February 27

STANDING AMONG HIS DISCIPLES

Lesson Text: Luke 24:36-53
Memory Verse: Luke 24:39

I. INTRODUCTION

On the afternoon of March 30, 1981, I was working in the yard when a neighbor walked out of the house and without so much as "hello" announced, "The President has been shot!"

The news was crackling over all the broadcast media. The next person I encountered was no less eager to let me know what was happening. Then for several hours folk greeted one another, saying, "Have you heard—?" Excited rumors, some false, some true, had to be sorted out. Then I encountered a knowledgeable friend and remarked on the circumstances of my first hearing the startling news. "What news?" He had been busy and had not heard.

It was, and is, even so with the news of Jesus' Resurrection. Excited first hearers gasped it out to everyone they met. Then it was, "Have you heard—?" and the story was recounted to any who would listen. There came a time, too, when fact had to be sorted out from excited imagination; so the Lord himself decreed a period of sober reflection and waiting until the Holy Spirit should come and guide the witnesses' memory and their testimony.

In our time, though, it is too easily assumed that everyone has heard the story and that further information is not needed. Most of us would be surprised to know how many of our friends have been too busy to hear the true account of Jesus' Resurrection. It needs to be told until the last person hears and believes.

Luke, the beloved physician, addressed his Gospel to the "most excellent Theophilus" ("beloved of God"), saying that he wrote it in order "that thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed" (Luke 1:3, 4). Believers must know what they believe! And the risen Christ is the center of their belief.

Luke wrote the Book of Acts also, addressing it to the same Theophilus (Acts 1:1). In that book he said that after Jesus' Crucifixion He "showed himself alive . . . by many infallible proofs, being seen of [the apostles] forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God" (Acts 1:3). The last chapter of Luke covers that forty-day period. The last four verses take the reader to the Mount of Olives and the day of Jesus' Ascension into Heaven. The fact is told more fully in Acts 1:4-11.

Luke's purpose at this point was not to provide a log of Jesus' movements, but to reflect a threefold purpose of the Lord in dealing with His apostles: first, to convince them that He had indeed come forth bodily from the tomb; second, to show God's plan in the gospel they would be preaching; and third, to direct them toward the preaching of that gospel.

Luke 24 begins with the account of several women coming early on the first day of the week to prepare the body of Jesus for more permanent burial, but finding only an empty tomb, with angels telling of Christ's Resurrection. The risen Christ first appeared to Mary Magdalene at a time when she was alone at the tomb (Mark 16:9, 10; John 20:11-18). Afterward Jesus appeared to the other women (Matthew 28:9, 10). Some time that day He appeared to Peter alone (Luke 24:34). In the afternoon He joined with Cleopas and another disciple walking to Emmaus, several miles from Jerusalem. There His identity became known "in breaking of bread." He disappeared and they hurried back to Jerusalem to tell the apostles, whom they found with other friends (Luke 24:33). The two related their story (Luke 24:13-35), but the apostles still did not fully believe it (Mark 16:13).—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. Luke 24, from which our printed Scripture is taken, is a wonderful chapter. It opens with the discovery of the empty tomb first by the women and then by the apostles; then we have the story of the two disciples on the Emmaus Road, after which we see their return to Jerusalem and Jesus' appearance to the disciples, and finally it closes with the disciples worshiping Jesus.

B. When Jesus first appeared to the disciples, ten of the apostles were present, Thomas was absent and Judas had committed suicide after betraying Jesus. At first, they seemed to have trouble recognizing Him, but He gave them the evidence of His hands and feet and then He ate. Slowly, the disciples came to realize that Jesus was not dead, but was alive.

C. In the chapter which we study today, we are told that Jesus opened three things. First, He opened the eyes of the disciples on the Emmaus Road so that they were able to recognize Jesus. Second, He opened the eyes of these same disciples so that they could understand what the Scriptures taught. Finally, He opened their understanding so that they could understand what the Scriptures taught concerning Jesus.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

EASTERN YOUTH

(Continued from Page 4)

The age groups are as follows:

14-19 (YFA); 9-13 (AFC) and 8 and under (Cherubs).

We will also have a Talent Show at our District Convention. Talent may consist of singing, acting, puppets, skits, recitations, instrumentals, etc.

***Please encourage your youth to participate in one of the competitions at our District Convention. In order for your youth to participate on the District level, all entries must be sent to me by *March 10, 1983. All Christian Writing entries must be in the hands of the District Youth Chairman by March 8, 1983, since the writings will be judged before the convention.*

If you have any questions or need further information, please call or write me!

Deborah H. King
1316 Manchester Road
Kinston, North Carolina 28501
Phone 523-1055

CRAGMONT

(Continued from Page 7)

Celia Hart Garris	
Woman's Auxiliary	100.00
Cragmont Club	1,557.50
Conference and Retreat	300.00
Total	$2,767.50
GRAND TOTAL	$6,601.97

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries	$1,833.23
Utilities	181.34
Food	48.67
Office Supplies	463.15
Taxes	1,216.77
Insurance	1,656.89
Maintenance and Repairs	750.72
Gas	138.60
Mileage	313.62
Equipment	87.00
Trash pick up	74.00
Total	$6,763.99

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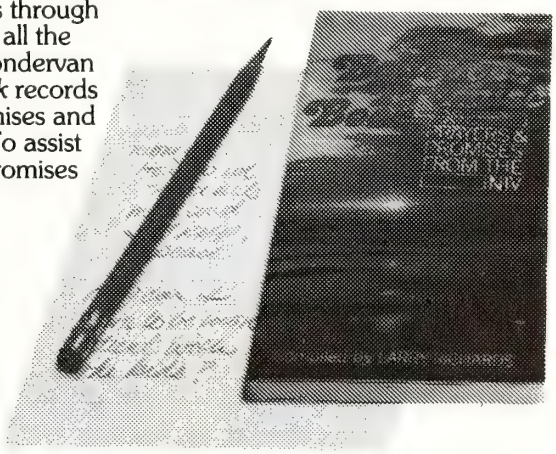

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Incorporated under the Laws of the State of North Carolina

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that _____

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is a member of Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Incorporated.

This certificate may not be transferred without the consent and approval of the Board of Directors given in a meeting duly held.

WITNESS the corporate seal of the corporation and the signature of its duly authorized officers affixed this _____ day of _____, 19_____.

_____ President

_____ Secretary

(SEAL)

Upon proper motion on September 12, 1982, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. voted to offer memberships for sale at the cost of $100 each. Certificates of membership cannot be issued to individual natural persons. Membership is limited to organizations of the Free Will Baptist denomination as follows: churches, union meetings, quarterly district meetings, conferences, conventions, other organizations recognized and sponsored by the Free Will Baptist denomination and such other denominational groups or organizations within the framework of the Free Will Baptist denomination as may be approved by the Board of Directors. Any group desiring membership, according to the Charter, should make application with the cost of membership to the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

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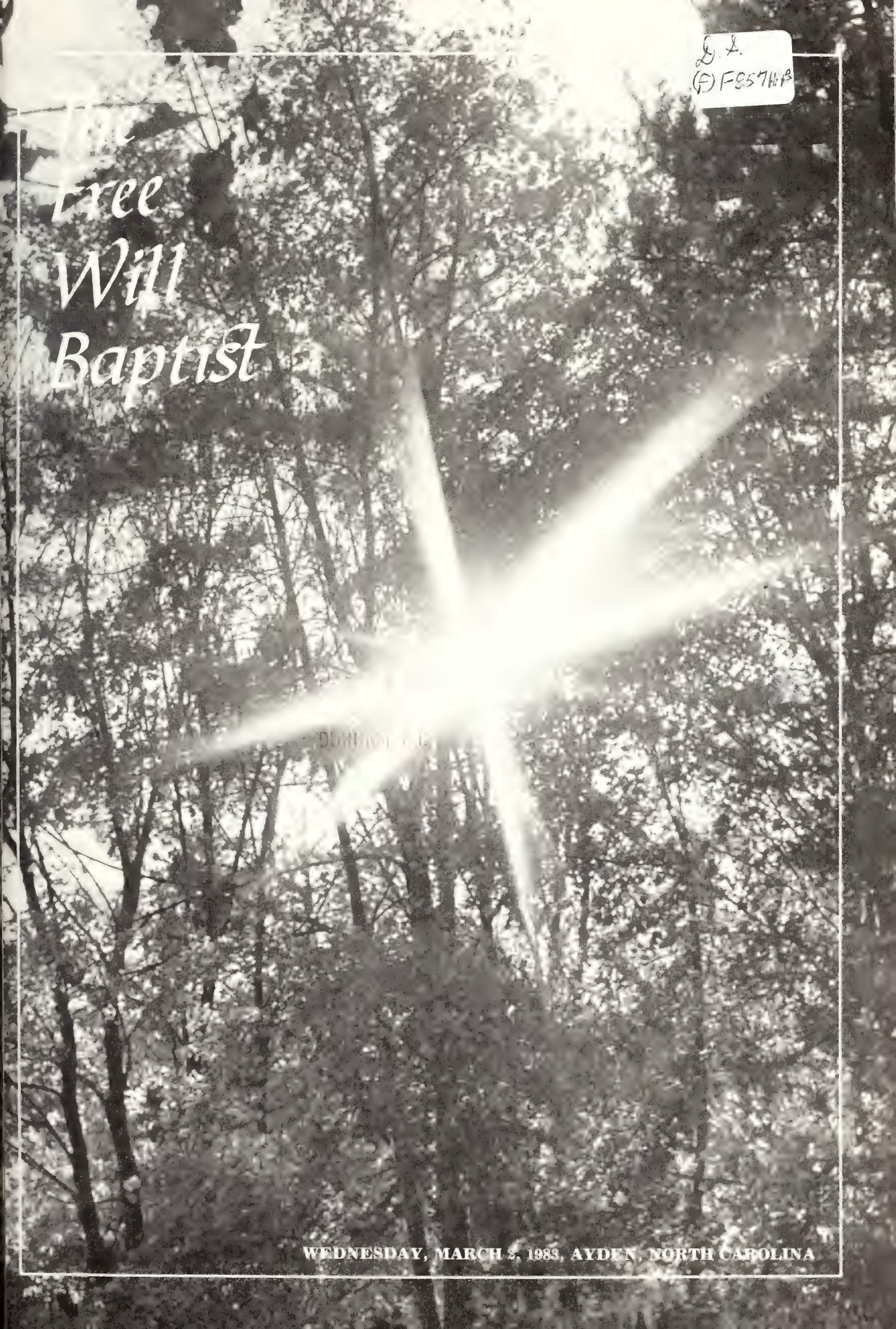

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Volume 98 Number 9

March 2, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Editorial

What We Need Is . . .

Once upon a time there was a beautiful little church located in a quaint little village. The church had seven Sunday school classes. Two of them were adult groups which met in different spots in the sanctuary; the teenagers assembled up front in the choir loft; the older adults met in the overflow room; and the children's classes were held in the basement.

The average Sunday school attendance was 70; while morning worship crowds numbered between 60 and 90 people, all depending on who the pastor was at the time. The evening worship congregation was composed of 35 faithful individuals. Oh yes, 15 people usually made it to Bible study on Wednesday night.

The church had a tough problem. It just did not grow. "What we need is a revival," the concerned church leaders said. (What they meant was that those who did not attend regularly should be "led" to Christ so they would attend church. Attendance and the church's income would both be helped in the process. Added leadership would be a side benefit.) "Yes," they agreed, "what we need is a revival."

New pastors all recognized the need for important changes. "We need a new Sunday school facility. We are out of room; there is nowhere for us to expand."

"No, we don't need more room; we need people. Then we will build a new facility. What we need in the meantime is a revival," replied the concerned leadership.

"We could partition the basement," suggested one young pastor. "There is so much noise now that no one can hear what the teachers are saying in Sunday school. How can we expect anyone to concentrate? Our teenagers need a place to call their own, too."

"That costs too much money. Things have been going fine just like they are for the past fifty years. They are good enough for me, so they are good enough for my kids, too. What we need is a revival," was the reply.

"We need to improve our teaching methods. Maybe if we better understood how Sunday school was supposed to work we would grow. Why don't we have monthly meetings with our teachers and workers?" the next pastor suggested.

"That's for larger churches. We don't need to do that; we only have 70 people. What we need are more people. Pastor, make more calls. What we need is revival."

Time passed; the world changed; but the little church remained the same. In the process, so did its attendance. Yes, new babies were born, and when they were old enough, they passed through the children's classes. But a good number of the teenagers chose not to occupy the conspicuous-choir-loft-Sunday-school-seats. Most of those who did, graduated from church when they graduated from high school. The few who remained merely filled the spots left by the dear departed brothers and sisters who went on to be with the Lord. And the church had seven Sunday school classes, with an average attendance of 70; while the morning worship crowds numbered between 60 and 90 people, all depending on who the pastor was at the time. Oh, how God's people needed revival!

(Continued on Page 15)

CHARLIE'S NEW SONG

It is nearly forty years ago, yet the scene is all before me now, and the events of that never-to-be-forgotten night are as fresh in my memory as if they had happened yesterday.

I sat by the fireside with my widowed mother, waiting for the home-coming of my only brother. He was a student in a medical college and was expected home that night, on his usual vacation. There were no railways in those days, so Charlie had to come by the mail-coach which took the greater part of the day to make the journey. I was looking forward to his home-coming with great delight, and had a long program of "events" drawn up for the following day, in which was included a supper and dance. My mother was very indulgent, and allowed us to do very much what we liked in these matters, and of course Charlie and I took full advantage of her liberality, and went into the thing in grand style. The hours passed on, and still there was no coach. It was late in the afternoon. I fretted at this, and feared that all my plans for the morrow might be upset. "What if he should not come?" I said, "that will spoil the whole thing."

Just then the "horn" sounded, and the big mail-coach rolled into the village amid clouds of dust, crowded with passengers, and with Charlie among the rest. I clapped my hands with glee as I saw his well-known form, on the driver's box, "beside the man in red," and in a few minutes more he stood in the old parlor, where he and I had together as children spent so many happy days. He was taller and thinner, but the old happy smile dimpled his cheek, and I never felt so proud of my brother as I did that day. I was so eager to inform him of all my plans that I accompanied him up to his room, and began at once to tell him who was invited and what was to be the program for the following day. He listened to my story patiently, but without the manifest interest I had expected. When I had finished, he gave a pleasant laugh, threw his arms around my neck, and kissing me affectionately said, "Mary, dear, you will not be offended if I tell you these things are no longer any enjoyment for me. I have something infinitely better." I looked at him in amazement, and I thought he was joking, for no one had enjoyed a dance more heartily than Charlie. He saw I was puzzled, so drawing me to his side, he said, "Do not be alarmed, Mary, I have not turned monk, but I have Christ as my own Lord and Master, and He is more to me now than all these follies used to be; but come on, Mother will be waiting; I will tell you all about it again."

That night, by the parlor fireside, Charlie told Mother and me the story of his conversion while listening to the preaching of Brownlow North in Edinburgh, and how he had longed to get back to his native town to tell to his old associates the story of redeeming love.

"What shall we do about tomorrow?" asked my mother. "Our preparations are all made, and there are about twenty invited." Charlie laughed heartily and said, "Let them come by all means, Mother; I shall be delighted to meet them."

A goodly company had gathered in our home the following night, and after supper, the company called for Charlie, as was his wont, to entertain them with a song. He was a splendid singer, and never was his voice in better form than it was that evening. A moment's pause, and Charlie rose, not without a quiver passing through his manly frame, and in a voice of thrilling sweetness, sang—

"I've found a Friend, O such a Friend!
  He loved me ere I knew Him!
He drew me with the cords of love,
  And thus He bound me to Him.
And 'round my heart still closely twine
  These ties which naught can sever,
For I am His, and He is mine,
  For ever and for ever."

A look of blank amazement settled on the faces of the company as the words fell on their ears. Every eye was fixed on the singer, spellbound. Tears were seen in the eyes of most, and as the singer reached the last verse, his voice increasing in power and sweetness, he sang the thrilling words with great effect—

"I've found a Friend, O such a Friend!
  So kind, and true, and tender,
So wise a Counsellor and Guide,
  So mighty a Defender!
From Him who loves me now so well,
  What power my soul can sever?
Shall life or death, or earth or Hell?
  No; I am His forever."

Some of the company rose and left without uttering one word, but the greater part remained, and to them Charlie in his winning, hearty manner told the simple story of his conversion, ending up with, "You won't be angry

(Continued on Page 13)

COLLEGE ENDOWMENT REACHES $1 MILLION

ENDOWMENT: A KEY TO THE FUTURE

An adequate endowment may well be the key to the future of Mount Olive College, especially as we make plans for development into a four-year institution.

Regardless of all its other good attributes, a college will survive only as long as it can pay its bills. Its reputation, age, philosophy of education, degrees of its faculty, programs of study, volumes in its library, size of its campus, number of buildings, or religious commitment—all of these combined cannot save a college if it does not have the resources to meet its financial obligations.

Colleges have three primary sources of income, normally in this order:

1. Students—payment of tuition, room, board and fees. (In private colleges income from students normally accounts for 50-75 percent of the operating budget.)
2. Voluntary gifts from churches, alumni, friends, foundations, business and industry (and government grants to public colleges and universities).
3. Endowment and related income.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE ENDOWMENT

What is the College endowment?

An endowment is a permanent fund. The principal or assets are safely invested and only the income is spent. The principal is kept on investment to continue earning.

What size endowment does Mount Olive College have?

The current value of all of our endowment funds exceeds $1 million.

From where did the College get these funds?

They were all gifts. Most of these funds were designated for endowment by the donor. In some cases, however, the Board of Trustees elected to assign to endowment unrestricted funds that were left to the College through estates, and in this way the bequests became lasting memorials.

What size endowment does the College need?

The present endowment is equivalent to approximately $2,500 per student, which if invested at ten percent means an endowment income of $250 per student. The College goal should be an endowment of $5,000 per student by 1986 and the long-range goal should be a minimum endowment of $10,000 per student.

How is endowment income used?

The person who establishes the endowment may designate its use or leave the decision to be made by the Board of Trustees according to the greatest need of the College.

What are some of the areas in which endowments are needed?

1. Scholarships to assist worthy students.
2. Professorships that will help the College attract and retain highly qualified teachers.
3. A source of income for the religious life programs that will help to underwrite the cost of the chaplain's office, spiritual life retreats, literature, films and special programs.
4. The library for the purchase of new books, binding of periodicals and valuable volumes, acquisitions and maintenance of the historical collection, additional personnel for research and services, and equipment.
5. Departments of study like natural sciences, mathematics, music, religion, drama, art, languages, business, physical education, and social studies.
6. Campus beautification, development of gardens, and general maintenance of grounds and buildings.
7. Lectureships, workshops and seminars for students, the Free Will Baptist Church and the public.
8. The athletic program (equipment, personnel, maintenance of facilities, and grants-in-aid to students).
9. Student Life enrichment.
10. General purposes of the College.

WHY SHOULD ONE WANT TO ESTABLISH AN ENDOWMENT?

Building an endowment is not for everyone, but it is for those persons who have vision and who want to advance a noble cause while they are living and leave behind an investment that will benefit humanity.

Here are five good reasons for establishing an endowment at Mount Olive College.

1. The donor believes in Christian education and he wants sincere and worthy young people to have an opportunity to equip themselves for a life of meaning and service.

I myself had the privilege of a college education because a man I never knew established an endowment for which I received a scholarship, without which I could not have gone to college or to Divinity School.

2. Life has been good to the donor—not easy but good—and he wants to show his appreciation by being a good steward of what God has entrusted to him.
3. He wants to express his love and appreciation to someone —family member or friend—who has meant much to him. This person may be living and the donor wishes to honor that person, or he may be deceased and the donor wants to memorialize him. In the life of each of us there is someone who has helped to make us what we are, and through an endowment we can record our gratitude.
4. The donor simply wants to do something good, something worthwhile; he wants the joy of having lived for something. He wants the satisfaction of helping others in a meaningful way.
5. A person establishes an endowment because he does not want his life to be "washed out" when he is gone. He does not want all that he has worked for and saved to be used for frivolous purposes. He wants to leave behind some evidence of the kind of person he is. He wants those ideas and principles by which he has lived to be preserved and perpetuated to future generations.

These reasons and others are sufficient for those who wish to establish an endowment of their own or to add to one already established by someone else. Mount Olive College is a means through which these aspirations can be received.

HOW TO ESTABLISH AN ENDOWMENT FUND

Establishing an endowment at Mount Olive College is a simple and rewarding experience. Every fund is different and reflects the purposes and resources of the donor.

The best step is to contact the president of the College and discuss with him your objective. He will explain to you various methods by which your purpose can be achieved and will leave the final decisions with you.

Below are answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about beginning an endowment fund.

What size gift is required?

An endowment may be in any amount that will achieve the purposes of the donor. There are more than one hundred (100) endowment funds at the College. Some are in excess of $100,000 and others are in the process of development with only a few hundred dollars.

Can you begin an endowment with a small gift and then add to it?

Yes. An initial gift may be made and either a fixed or lifelong plan may be used to build it up.

Can assets other than money be used to establish an endowment?

Yes. Any asset which has present or future market value, such as gifts of stock, bonds, real estate, rental property or jewelry, may be used.

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

What teaching methods did you use last Sunday? Perhaps you used one or more of the following: buzz groups, questions and answers, audio-visuals, drama, role-playing, open-end stories, listening teams, a field trip, case studies, quizzes, recitations, a film-talk back, a music forum, directed reading and reporting, writing, drawing, storytelling, a lecture, play reading, a project, and many others. Why did you select the methods you used, that is, what factors determined the methods you selected? Please make an attempt to answer these questions before reading the remainder of this article.

I would like to share some factors that need to be considered in selecting teaching methods. But let us be sure we understand what we mean by teaching methods. Teaching methods, from the standpoint of Christian education, are means whereby we seek to set up opportunities for persons to discover the relevance of the Christian faith for their lives. To be more specific, the purpose of teaching methods is to nurture persons into Christlikeness. We have tended to define teaching methods too narrowly, that is, only as ways of transferring knowledge from the teacher to the learner. Christian education itself has been defined as just the teaching of a body of knowledge (doctrines) *about* the Christian faith. So the methods that have dominated are those designed to transmit information, for example, lectures, recitations, memorization, and so on. The temptation is to think that our task is completed when, for example, persons can recite the Ten Commandments or describe Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus. I do not intend to minimize the importance of teaching such content. This is a vital part of our task. However, it is only one part of our task. The ultimate goal of Christian education is not just to get persons to know *about* the Christian faith. Our aim is to help them experience the life-transforming power of Christ as the dominant motivating and guiding force in their lives. We want them to know Christ with their hearts as well as their minds. Thus we must use

(Continued on Page 15)

Woman's Auxiliary of Faith Mission Has Dinner

Mrs. Lorraine Leonard

The Woman's Auxiliary of Faith Mission, Leland, had a sweetheart dinner on February 14. The ladies invited the Brotherhood to join them after their meeting. They elected the Woman of the Year for 1982. She was Mrs. Lorraine Leonard; and she has been a good worker in the church. She helps in the nursery when she is needed.

On Wednesday nights, she helps with the young people. She really loves the Lord and the young people love her. She cleans the church when she is needed. She is always there for all of us. The ladies really enjoy being with Mrs. Leonard because she is ready and willing to serve where there is a need.

Executive Committee of Sunday School Convention Meets

The Executive Committee of the State Sunday School Convention met to discuss pending business on Monday, January 31, at 7 p.m. The meeting took place at the Golden Corral Restaurant, Kinston, North Carolina. Officers present at the meeting were President, Stanley Jenkins; Vice President, Marvin R. Waters; and Recording Secretary, M. Chris Singleton. Directors present were Organization, Elwood Hill; Literature, Frank Grubbs; Boards and Reports, H. Adrian Grubbs; and Publicity, Joe Crumpler. Also present was T. Bruce Dudley, proxy for C. H. Overman, director of Denominational Enterprises.

Visiting with the Executive Committee were Gary M. Bailey, president of the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, and Bass Mitchell, pastor of Core Creek Church.

Mr. Bailey discussed with the Executive Committee possibilities concerning a joint effort of the conventions to employ a field secretary to promote the work of both organizations. This would be similar to the old office of "General Secretary," but would also fill the needs of the Sunday schools. A job description for the position is being drafted and resumes will soon be solicited.

Plans were finalized for the annual session of the Sunday School Convention. The Convention will meet Saturday, March 26, at Daniels Chapel Church, Black Creek. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. with classes starting at 9:15 a.m. Details of the convention will be released in future issues of *The Free Will Baptist.*

Robert's Grove to Have Revival

Revival services will begin at Robert's Grove Church, Route 1, Dunn, on Monday, March 7, and will continue through Friday, March 11. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m., and there will be special singing each night. The Rev. Earl Glenn, pastor of Daniels Chapel Church, Wilson, will be the evangelist. The church membership and its pastor, the Rev. Jerry Allen, invite everyone to come and worship with them.

Cape Fear Conference Youth Rally Met

The Cape Fear Conference Youth Rally met at Shady Grove Church near Newton Grove, on February 5, 1983. Pleasant Grove Youth won the youth attendance banner with 24 and Robert's Grove Youth won the total attendance banner with 34. There were 250 people present at the rally.

Debbie Floyd and Lew Winger led the group in a delightful singspiration period from 7:15 to 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Harold Jones, of the Foreign Missions Board, gave an interesting slide presentation on the people and the life-styles in India. The Rev. Jeff Scarborough concluded the program with remarks and prayer. Paul Surles asked the blessing for the food, and refreshments were enjoyed.

The next youth rally will be held March 5, at Tee's Chapel Church. The time for the Tic Tac Toe game for the youth is 7:15 p.m.

Junior Class of Mount Calvary Church Has Valentine Banquet

The Junior Class of Mount Calvary Church, Route 2, Clarkton, entertained their relatives with a very inspiring program in the fellowship hall of the church on February 12, 1983.

Jerry L. Ransom was Master of Ceremonies. The Scripture was read by Michelle Duncan and Kellie Ransom. Prayer was given by Christy Skipper; Tracy Ransom led the group with the Ten Commandments. Randy Adams gave the "thank you" to the parents for coming and to the mothers for the beautiful and delicious meal they had prepared. The children sang, "He Got Hold of

(Continued on Page 15)

BARNARD'S VISA STATUS APPROVED

The Charles Barnard Family

December 1982 proved to be our best month so far. God has manifested Himself to us in tremendous fashion. Already in our tenth month of service in the Philippines, we want to say "thank you" to all of those who have held us up before the Throne of Grace. His grace has been sufficient!

We had a cool visit to Hong Kong. The temperature dipped to around 55 degrees fahrenheit. All of us caught colds. However, the good news is that our change of status from tourist visas to pre-arranged employment visas was accomplished. For this we lift our voices in praise to the Eternal Father.

While undergoing physical examinations for the visa clearance in Hong Kong we had more wonderful news. Shanna and Jeffrey's x-rays showed that their Primary Complex T. B. was completely dormant. Thanks again for your faithfulness in praying for them. The sad news for Shanna is that she received braces sometime during the month of February. The good news is that she will no longer have problems with her teeth crowding.

We received nearly 100 Christmas cards and another 30 or so birthday cards during December. Please be patient with us as we try to personally answer each of them. Please be assured that we are encouraged by each card, letter, and gift received. We are now well stocked with Stateside cake mixes, Jello, and other goodies.

Our return to Puerto held more good news for us. Twenty-five new converts had followed the Lord's command in believer's baptism. Twenty-one were as the result of the missionary efforts of our four young people assigned to the West Coast of Palawan during the holidays. Several others accepted Christ and many want further Christian training and churches established in their areas. God is so good!

Our Missions Month was a great success. Missions awareness is on the rise. Puerto Princesa City Church and Canigaran Church gave a total of 100 pesos to missions on December 26. One-half of this amount has been forwarded to the North Carolina Board of Foreign Missions.

All is not rosy, however. The child of one of our promising church families died the first week of January. Yet the strength of the father and his dependence upon God is a great encouragement to all. Do pray for the Jesus Ehim family.

To make matters worse concerning our colds, we came back to unusually cold temperatures here on Palawan. We shiver under the covers each night. It was actually just above 75 degrees fahrenheit this morning. Everyone is wearing long-sleeved shirts and blouses. We are encouraged to know that within a few weeks or months this cold wave will be over and we can get back to normal 100 degrees fahrenheit weather.

Palawan Bible Institute began its third trimester on January 3 with an enrollment of 25 students. We are pleased with God's blessings upon our efforts and those of our faculty, staff, and students.

Please continue to lift us up in your daily prayers.

The Barnards

MARCH IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH

During this month you will be introduced to Jose (Ho-za). Jose is a ten-year-old boy who lives in a third world country. He has never heard the gospel, and probably never will unless we who are saved do all that we

(Continued on Page 15)

our missionaries. Pray for our pastors, teachers, and workers in Mexico, India, and the Philippines. Pray for more laborers.

Be a part of this year's telethon. Call your special offering in to the Foreign Missions office between 1:30 and 5 p.m. on March 27—phone (919) 746-4963. We will be waiting to hear from you.

Thank you in advance for making this a great telethon!

Note: The Barnards were required by the Philippine Government to leave the Philippines and go to Hong Kong to pick up their visas.

WHO IS YOUR PASTOR'S PASTOR?

It dawned on me the other day that my pastor has no pastor, no human under-shepherd to whom he can turn when the days are dark. Like most other church members, I have called my pastor when there was need, and he has never failed me, but who is his pastor? Who rushes to his side when the load is heavier than he can bear alone?

Is there not something within all of us which cries out for human sympathy and understanding? Is my pastor an exception just because he is my pastor?

The Saviour turned aside to talk with the Father, and spent long hours with Him who meets His servants in quiet places and who never forsakes them. Our Lord also needed John, Peter, James and the other disciples. No doubt, in later years, those very disciples grieved because they slept while He suffered alone in the garden.

I have made a firm resolution, which by God's help, I shall not break. I am determined that my pastor shall know that I love him, that he shall not lack the sympathetic understanding which I can give. As a member of my church, I shall in some way be a shepherd's friend.

—Author unknown

Mount Olive College

APPRECIATION

Free Will Baptist Gift Support to Mount Olive College
(For the operating budget—general fund)
Seven-Month Progress Report: July 11, 1982—January 31, 1983

1982-83 Operating Budget Gift Support Goal for Free Will Baptists	$350,000
Total Operating Gifts Through January	213,080
Balance Needed by June 30, 1983	$136,918

Each year Mount Olive College suggests a "Challenge" in gift support for the churches in the Albemarle, Cape Fear, Central, Eastern and Western Conferences of North Carolina. The Challenge represents a goal toward which we encourage churches to work in supporting the educational program of the College.

Through January 31 of the 1982-83 fiscal year thirty-eight (38) churches had already met or exceeded their goal. We salute these churches and encourage all churches to fulfill their challenges by June 30. Churches not in the above conferences are invited to set their own challenge for the College—and then to exceed it.

Gifts to College Hall, endowments and other capital purposes go into restricted funds and are not included in the challenge.

Churches Which Have Met Their 1982-83 Challenge For Mount Olive College

Church	Challenge	Gifts July 1 through January 31	Margin of Excellence
ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE			
Free Union	$1,600	$2,010	$ 410
Mount Zion	900	991	91
St. Paul	400	400	-
CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE			
Hopewell	5,000	5,645	645
Lee's Chapel	1,700	2,587	887
Saint Mary's Grove	1,000	1,040	40
Smithfield, First	1,000	1,100	100
West Clinton	200	200	-
CENTRAL CONFERENCE			
Free Union	2,000	2,001	1
King's Cross Roads	1,200	1,355	155
Little Creek	700	745	45
Marlboro	1,000	1,470	470
Rocky Mount, First	800	1,022	222
Tarboro, First	4,000	4,210	210
EASTERN CONFERENCE			
Angola	150	206	56
Core Creek	1,900	1,919	19
Fellowship Mission	25	125	100
Folkstone	700	980	280
Indian Springs	250	320	70
Juniper Chapel	2,600	3,236	636
Moseley's Creek	400	425	25
Mount Zion (Pamlico)	1,500	1,560	60
Rock of Zion	1,000	2,188	1,188
Saints Delight	700	1,123	423
Smyrna	1,900	2,622	722
Sneads Ferry	450	495	45
Sound View	600	750	150
Spring Hope	400	483	83
Welcome Home	500	500	-
White Oak	50	129	79

WESTERN CONFERENCE			
Agape Mission	150	175	25
Everett Chapel	1,900	1,952	52
Free Union	700	746	46
Spring Hill	4,000	4,791	791
Trinity	1,000	1,020	20
Unity (Wilson)	2,000	2,957	957
Union Grove	250	255	5
Wilson, First	1,500	1,911	411

LAUGHINGHOUSE APPOINTED AS TRUSTEE

Jesse R. Laughinghouse

Jesse R. Laughinghouse of Greenville has been appointed as a trustee for Mount Olive College to fill the unexpired term of the late Samuel D. Bundy, also of Pitt County. The appointment was made by the Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

He is the son of the late William Henry Laughinghouse, who served 57 years as a Free Will Baptist minister, pastoring many of the churches in the Central Conference. The Rev. Laughinghouse was pastor of his home church, Rose Hill Church, for 23 years.

In addition to serving as president of Bostic Sugg Furniture Company in Greenville, Laughinghouse is active in numerous church, fraternal, and civic organizations. Presently, he is serving as chairman of the Greenville Masonic Temple Board. As a Shriner, Laughinghouse was presented the Walt Disney Award this past January for his outstanding service and support for the Crippled and Burn Shrine Hospitals. He is also a member of the Greenville Kiwanis Club, and he is presently serving on the Board of Directors for the Salvation Army and for the Bank of North Carolina.

He is married to the former Hilda Britton, and they have one son, Billy B. Laughinghouse of Greenville. They are members of Hooker Memorial Christian Church, and Laughinghouse is presently serving on the Executive Board of the Christian Church Disciples of Christ in North Carolina.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be the guest minister at Davis Church on Sunday, March 6, for the 11 a.m. worship service. At 10 a.m., he will teach the adult Sunday school class.

NEW CREATIONS TO PERFORM

The New Creations from Mount Olive College will perform on Sunday, March 6, during the 11 a.m. worship service at Juniper Chapel Church near Vanceboro and at 7 p.m. at Unity Church in Wilson.

State Sunday School Convention
Daniels Chapel Church
Wilson, NC
March 26, 9 a.m.

ATTENTION – NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

The 1983 session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene on Thursday, May 12, at Cathedral Church, Durham, in the Piedmont District. Each auxiliary should represent with one delegate for each member or fraction thereof, plus a registration fee of $10.

Many auxiliaries mail their registration fee in advance. This is a good thing to do, as it saves the delegate the trouble of handling the money. Also, in the event something happens at the last minute to prohibit your representing in person, your auxiliary is registered as having represented.

IMPORTANT: Please mail your fee before April 25, if possible, so that I will be able to get the list prepared and delivered to the convention registration committee for use on the morning of May 12. If you cannot possibly attend, please mail your fee anyway, as the convention needs your support. Mail your fee to the following address: Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, State Treasurer, 517 Westover Avenue, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

COMING EVENTS

March—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

March 12—North Carolina State League Convention, First Church, Goldsboro, 9:30 a.m.

March 19—Eastern District Youth Convention, Christian Chapel Church, Pink Hill, 10 a.m.

March 24—Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Bethlehem Church, near Chinquapin, 10 a.m.

March 27—Telethon Sunday for Foreign Missions

CHURCH GROWTH CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN MARCH

A Church Growth Conference will be held Thursday and Friday, March 10, 11, 1983, at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive. It is being sponsored by the Free Will Baptist Home Missions Department. The scheduled program is as follows:

THURSDAY

9:00—10:00 a.m.—Registration and Coffee
10:00—10:15 a.m.—Welcome and Devotional
10:15—11:45 a.m.—Workshop: *Daring to Desire to Grow;* leader, the Rev. Ora Johnson
11:45—12:00 a.m.—Discussion
12:00— 1:15 p.m.—Lunch
1:15— 2:30 p.m.—Workshop: *Growth Through Youth and Children;* leaders, Allan and Debbie Sterbin
2:30— 2:45 p.m.—Break
2:45— 4:15 p.m.—Workshop: *Discovering Church Growth Principles;* leader, the Rev. Ora Johnson
4:15— 4:30 p.m.—Discussion
4:30 p.m. —Adjournment

THURSDAY EVENING

7:30— 9:20 p.m.—Special Evangelism Rally at Rogers Chapel
—Congregational Singing Under the Direction of the Rev. Dean Kennedy
—Organ and Piano Music by the Rev. and Mrs. Ronnie Hobgood
—Special Soloist, Mott Batchelor
—Sermons by the Rev. Howard Starling and the Rev. Ora Johnson

FRIDAY

9:00— 9:30 a.m.—Coffee and Donuts
9:30—11:00 a.m.—Workshop: *Reaching the Reachable People;* leader, the Rev. Ora Johnson
11:00—11:15 a.m.—Break
11:15—12:00 a.m.—Message: *Revival in the Local Church;* speaker, the Rev. Keith Cobb
12:00— 1:15 p.m.—Lunch
1:15— 2:45 p.m.—Workshop: *Keeping Growth Going in Your Church;* leader, the Rev. Ora Johnson
2:45— 3:30 p.m.—Discussion and Wrap-up

Registration fee for the minister is $10 and for the layman, $5.

NOTE: A Church can send as many as desired for a $25 registration fee. There is no registration charge for the Evangelism Rally on Thursday evening. It is urged that the churches send their pastor and at least one layman. One of the best investments a church can make is to pay the expenses of its pastor and lay people to attend this Conference. All funds will be used to pay expenses.

The Rev. Ora Johnson presently serves as pastor of Malden First General Baptist Church, Malden, Missouri. A graduate of Oakland City College, he is past Director of Evangelism for General Baptists, a post he held for seven years.

The Rev. Allan Sterbin serves as pastor of Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, North Carolina. His wife, Debbie, assists him in his ministry there.

The Rev. Howard Starling serves as pastor of Otway Free Will Baptist Church, near Beaufort, North Carolina.

The present pastor of Fremont Free Will Baptist Church, the Rev. Keith Cobb teaches evangelical teacher training courses at Carolina Bible Institute, Pine Level, North Carolina.

RONALD E. BRAXTON IS ORDAINED

Ronald (Ron) E. Braxton was ordained as a Free Will Baptist minister on February 3 at Winterville Church. The Central Conference Ordaining Council participated in the service, with the Rev. Harry Grubbs presenting Brother Ron for ordination as a preacher of the Word; the Old Testament Lesson was presented by the Rev. Ray Williamson, the New Testament Lesson by the Rev. Gary Bailey. Presentation of the Bible and the Charge were by the Rev. Bruce Barrow. Ron's pastor, the Rev. Ed Taylor, delivered the sermon. Special music was rendered by the Gospel Chargers. All the ministers present gathered around for the Laying on of Hands, with the Rev. Ray Williamson offering a prayer of consecration. The Rev. Royce Reynolds welcomed Ron into the ministry and also gave the benediction prayer.

The ordination bulletin said, "Ron Braxton has great potential as a minister of the Original Free Will Baptist Church. He is a member of and an outstanding worker in the Winterville Church, having served as Sunday school teacher, Sunday school superintendent, and deacon along with other work. He has a Master's Degree from East Carolina University and teaches science at D.H. Conley High School. He has also studied at Mount Olive College and plans to continue his ministerial education at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

"Ron has successfully completed the requirements for ordination by proving to be proficient in Biblical Doctrine and Free Will Baptist history, and in showing evidence of moral character, ethical behavior, and Christian growth to maturity."

Among his other attributes, Ron used his musical talent by singing in the Winterville choir, the Messengers Quartet, and the church trio.

The Proclaimers, an outreach youth group, was organized by Ron in 1972 and is still active in the Winterville Church.

His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Kerby H. Braxton, members of Reunion Chapel Church, Vanceboro.

The Willing Workers Class served refreshments after the service on Sunday night, February 20.

HISTORY OF THE PROCLAIMERS

by Ron Braxton, sponsor

During the autumn of 1972, the Proclaimers youth group was established as an outreach of a youth class of the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church League. The group met every Sunday evening with great enthusiasm and stimulating discussions. One of the special activities of this group was to sponsor a fellowship meeting, which was held in the homes of many of the Proclaimers. This fellowship meeting occurred about every month, and the meeting included a praise time through music and games, and to highlight the evening, a speaker shared a devotional thought. In addition, the friends of the Proclaimers, our parents, provided refreshments and were gracious with their Christian hospitality. Without their support, the Proclaimers would not have been as successful as they are today.

Initially, God blessed the Proclaimers with many musically talented people. With the capable leadership of Randy Edens, James Jones, Emerson Hobgood, and David Hines, the Proclaimers arranged many spiritual musical programs. During these early years of our history, the Proclaimers went to many places to render a sacred concert. The summer of 1974 witnessed the Proclaimers performing at Cragmont.

By this time the Proclaimers were in a growing phase. It was not unusual to have over thirty individuals to attend our meetings. We were blessed to have many interested ministers who have assisted us during the past decade. We are indebted to the spiritual leadership of the Revs. Jack Mayo, Bobby Futrell, Ed Taylor, Frank Gentry and Seth Jones. (We welcomed classmates from other denominations also.)

The Proclaimers enjoyed being together. We did numerous activities as a group. One exciting activity event of 1975 was our trip to Norfolk, Virginia, to attend a Bill Gaither Trio Concert. Some of our members were elated to be on the same elevator as the Gaithers, and some other members stayed next door to them.

We are thankful to God that three of our members (and also the sponsor) have answered the call to be a minister of the gospel. They are the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, the Rev. David Hines, and Donald Ribeiro (to be ordained). In addition, Mitzi Corbett was called by God to become a minister's wife, as she married Ronnie Hobgood. Let us pray that others will accept the call to serve the Lord in full-time service.

By 1978, many of our original Proclaimers were now adults serving the Lord elsewhere. We were fortunate to have the excellent leadership of Donald Ribeiro to guide the young people. During Donald's administration the Proclaimers began sponsoring a boy from

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SUNDAY, MARCH 6

Scripture Reading—2 Samuel 16-19

GOD'S WORKS DECLARE HIS GREATNESS

The spacious firmament on high,
With all the blue ethereal sky
And spangled heavens, a shining frame,
Their great Original proclaim.
The unwearied sun, from day to day,
Does his Creator's power display,
And publishes to every land
The work of an Almighty hand.

Soon as the evening shades prevail.
The moon takes up the wondrous tale,
And, nightly, to the listening earth
Repeats the story of her birth;
Whilst all the stars that round her burn,
And all the planets in their turn,
Confirm the tidings as they roll,
And spread the truth from pole to pole.

What though in solemn silence all
Move round the dark terrestrial ball:
What though no real voice nor sound
Amid their radiant orbs be found?
In Reason's ear they all rejoice,
And utter forth a glorious voice,
Forever singing, as they shine,
"The Hand that made us is divine."

MONDAY, MARCH 7

Scripture Reading—2 Samuel 20-24

CHRISTIANS ARE LIKE LOCOMOTIVES

A minister was being shown through a large plant where locomotives were built. Pointing at one completed locomotive, the guide said, "This locomotive is the last word in engine building!" The minister exclaimed with admiration, "What a mighty thing!" "Yes," said the guide, "if there are three things attending it. It must have power generated by internal combustion of crude oil. It must be on the rails, for its power would bring destruction if it is derailed. It must have a good engineer, for it will run efficiently only when rightly handled." The minister replied, "That's just like a Christian. We are powerful and useful only when we are filled with the fullness of God, walking in His way, and utterly under the Holy Spirit's control!"

Too few of us are sufficiently quiescent before God to hear the still, small voice of the indwelling Holy Spirit. Often the best disclosures God has for His children are spoken in a whisper.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

Scripture Reading—1 Kings 1, 2

A PUZZLED AGNOSTIC

An agnostic set out to save a drunkard from his besetting sin, just to prove that it was possible to do so without the aid of religion. He found the task much harder than he had imagined, for no appeals to his manhood, or arguments about the power of mind and will had any effect. The drunkard had lost all strength to resist temptation, and his would-be savior found he had to be with him constantly, and even take him by the arm to get him past a bar. Still the optimistic unbeliever persevered, declaring that eventually he would save him without any Christian help. One day a friend met him alone, and asked him how the experiment was going on. He replied: "I was doing fairly well when a group of fellows singing at a street corner got hold of him. I don't really know what happened, but somehow they persuaded him to kneel and pray with them. Anyway, he can pass a bar by himself now."

Undertake great things for God and expect great things from God.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

Scripture Reading—1 Kings 3-6

HE GIVETH POWER TO THE FAINT

Dr. F. B. Meyer, a prince of exegetes and a powerful preacher, was on his last visit to America. A large audience had assembled in a New York City church to hear him speak. Weak and wobbly, Dr. Meyer was helped to the platform by two men, one on either side. Sitting in an elevated chair and with great physical exertion, he began his message. The audience thought, "Will he be able to go through the service?" As he spoke, a miracle of God's enabling power was enacted before their wondering eyes. Dr. Meyer stood to his feet. The heyday and vigor of his earlier years returned, and for one and a quarter hours words of graciousness and wisdom flowed from his lips.

All left that memorable meeting knowing in their hearts that they had the answer to the ancient question, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" and rejoicing in the sure promise of God to His physically enfeebled children, "He giveth power to the faint!"

Our God has boundless resources. The only limit is in us. Our asking, our thinking, our praying are too small. Our expectations are too limited.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

Scripture Reading—1 Kings 7-9

THE POWER WITHIN

We were looking out over the sea on a rough and stormy day. "I have been watching a steamer," said someone to me, "fighting her way onward in the face of that terrible wind and those high-crested waves. How she keeps on her course at all is a mystery to me; how does she do it?" There was only one answer to that question, and I said, "Because the power within her enables her to overcome the opposing forces without." It is so with God's children. They are hindered by obstacles, thwarted by the keen cutting winds of misfortune; buffeted and bruised by the surging waves of sorrow, bereavement, disappointed hopes; and we wonder how they can keep on their course so bravely and brightly. They hold the secret in their hearts; they are conscious of a power within, one which is not theirs by nature.

They have learned to say with St. Paul, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

Scripture Reading—1 Kings 10-13

SMELLY LAMPS

There was a Welsh woman who lived in a valley far away from any town or city. She was a simple-minded, hardworking person who knew little about the ways of the world. At a great sacrifice to herself, she had electricity installed in her little cottage. "You use the electric lights so little, I wonder if it was worth what it cost you to have them put in," said a neighbor. "Oh, yes," answered the woman, "I switch them on every night to see to light my lamps. Then I switch them off!" Think of it! With great power at her command with the flip of a switch, she continued the weary task of trimming wicks, pouring oil and lighting smelly lamps!

Christ's strength is ours for the asking. Yet, there are many who continue to serve the Lord in weariness and weakness, "sometimes up, but most times down!"

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

Scripture Reading—1 Kings 14-17

CONNECTED TO THE POWER

A delicate little lady, who had obviously seen better days, continued to go to work as a seamstress, although past the traditional threescore and ten years. The daughter of one of the families in which she was employed, marveling at her quiet endurance, asked her one day how she managed to work so hard and so steadily. "Well, my dear," replied the patient voice, "sometimes it seems hard. Often I get up in the morning feeling so weak and faint that it seems impossible to go through the day's work. But, you see, I'm like a tram car before it is connected with the power wire. The first thing I do is to *connect with the Power.* When I have said my prayers, I feel my hand in God's, and the power of His Spirit passing into me, and then I can go on and do what I have to do."

Prayer gives you courage to make the decisions you must make in a crisis and then the confidence to leave the result to a Higher Power.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 3)

with me for telling you, will you? The truth is, I could not keep it, my heart is full of it, and I thought the least I could do was to tell you of my new-found treasure."

That simple testimony to the saving power of Christ, the beaming face of the speaker, so well known to all the company, the genuineness of the change, the absence of all affectation, and the earnest closing appeal to "accept the gift of God, His own beloved Son, to be your Saviour, and know true happiness for time and Eternity," was owned of God to the conversion of at least five of the company that night.

Charlie spoke in the schoolroom on Sunday evening to a crowded congregation, and several others were won for Christ. A great ingathering followed. And among those who were saved and who sang the new song, were my mother and I.

Part of that happy company after witnessing a good confession have gone to Heaven; others of us are still on earth, singing still of Jesus, and were Charlie by my side, as I write, he would join me in saying to all who read my story what he said that night long ago, "Accept the gift of God, His own beloved Son, to be your Saviour." Then your song shall ever be: "How marvelous, how wonderful, is my Saviour's love for me."—Julia Shelhamer

Sunday School Lesson

For March 6

AN EXPECTANT FELLOWSHIP

Lesson Text: Acts 1:4-14
Memory Verse: Acts 1:8

I. INTRODUCTION

Some months ago a motorist left his new auto parked on a side street. After he had completed his business an hour or so later, he returned to his car and tried to start it. To his irritation the engine wouldn't start. Supposing that the battery was dead, he raised the hood to check on it. Imagine his surprise and dismay to discover that the battery was missing; thieves had removed it during his absence. Everything else was in good working order, yet the car would not run because there was no battery to provide the spark necessary to turn the engine.

Does this not remind us very much of the modern church? All about us we see congregations that have the latest facilities and all the equipment needed to do an effective job for the Lord, yet very little exciting ever happens there. The reason seems obvious—they lack the spark it takes to ignite them and drive them.

The Early Church had no such problem. The apostles, because they obeyed by returning to Jerusalem and waiting, received that power from on high—a power that enabled them to challenge first the Jewish religious leaders and, before long, the whole Roman Empire. If the modern church is to enjoy that energizing power of the Spirit, it must learn to follow the Lord's leadership as revealed in the Spirit-inspired Scriptures. If the church's engine is to run again as it did in the first century, we must somehow bring back the battery!

The lessons for this quarter are all based upon passages selected from one of the most exciting pieces of literature in the world—the Book of Acts. In twenty-eight brief chapters is chronicled the incredible story of how eleven weak and unlettered men were transformed into a dynamic army for Christ through the action of the Holy Spirit. As amazing as this story is, the manner in which it is narrated is almost as amazing. The writer, whom almost all authorities have identified as Luke, the "beloved physician," writes of these breathtaking exploits with a calm dignity that serves to intensify their significance. Without resorting to trumpet fanfares or Hollywood hoopla, Luke, both as a careful researcher and as an eyewitness, gives us a few brief glimpses of the high adventures that were destined to change the whole course of human history.

The New Testament gives us only scattered bits of information about Luke, but it is generally held that he was a Gentile who became a Christian, perhaps without ever having been a proselyte. We do know that he was a faithful companion of Paul, standing by him during his first imprisonment in Rome. It seems reasonable to suppose that Acts was written by Luke during this stay in Rome. It is generally held that it was written in A.D. 63 before Paul was released from prison. Had it been written later, Luke surely would have recorded Paul's release.

Luke was not an eyewitness of the events that form the basis for today's lesson. He was, however, a careful researcher. This fact, along with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, has enabled him to give an accurate account of these momentous events.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. That the Book of Acts is the sequel to the Gospel of Luke, we may be sure because both of these books are addressed to the same person. Furthermore, the Book of Acts refers to the "former treatise."

B. The "Promise of the Father" was evidently the coming of the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit came, He baptized the disciples, placing them into the body of Christ which is the church (1 Corinthians 12:13).

C. Why did Jesus tell the disciples to wait for the "Promise of the Father"? They had been taught by the Master himself; they had had some experience in witnessing; they had been called. The real reason is that they were not qualified until they were filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

D. The Ascension of Christ was the formal ending to His earthly ministry. Just as His birth was announced by angels, so His Ascension was announced by angels. This surprised the disciples.

E. After the Ascension the disciples in obedience returned to Jerusalem to wait the coming of the Holy Spirit to empower them.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Some find difficulty in every opportunity, others find opportunity in every difficulty. For example, a shoe manufacturer sent two salesmen into the heart of Africa. One cabled back, "Recall me immediately. No sales possibilities here. Nobody wears shoes." The other salesman's message read, "Ship cargo of shoes immediately. Market potential unlimited. Everybody is barefooted." The wide-awake Christian will find opportunities to witness for Christ anywhere, anytime, to anyone.
—Selected

HISTORY OF THE PROCLAIMERS

(Continued from Page 11)

Mexico named Fernando Hernandez through World Vision. The group is still sponsoring him today. Also during this time the Proclaimers took on several fund-raising projects such as bike-a-thons, rock-a-thons, and bake sales.

In 1980, Ogden Wiggins was elected president, and during his administration the Proclaimers began having retreats at Camp Don Lee.

In 1981, Greg Churchill was elected president. He is currently the president of the group. With his able leadership the Proclaimers have continued the programs of the past and have remained active.

So the dream of about ten young people, Brenda Carawan, Randy Edens, Guyla Corbett Evans, Betty Hines Harris, David Hines, Jimmy Hines, Alice Hines, JoAnn Hines Pennington, Willie Skinner, and Teresa Hines Smith, is still as vivid today as it was in 1973.

On January 8, 1983, the Proclaimers held their tenth anniversary. About fifty-two Proclaimers and their parents attended. Greg Churchill presided, and the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood and Donald Ribeiro delivered a spiritual charge. Glenn and Guy Buck were featured with special singing along with the inspiring Ovations.

NOTE: Brother Ron was presented a plaque at the anniversary party by the Proclaimers. Many of the members gave testimonies paying tribute to Ron for his guidance. Being in the Proclaimers had made a big impact on their lives. Don Ribeiro stated it was doubtful he would be a Christian today had it not been for the influence of Ron Braxton.

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 5)

teaching methods that speak to the whole person, that can help transform feelings, attitudes, life-styles, and all of life "to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13).

(**NEXT WEEK:** Some factors to consider in selecting teaching methods.)

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 6)

My Life," as their group song. It was followed by Kellie Ransom, Tracy Ransom, and Michelle Duncan singing "Try a Little Kindness." Mrs. Joyce Ransom was choir director and Mrs. Pat Duncan was the pianist.

The fellowship supper was enjoyed by candlelight. The tables were decorated with the Valentine theme. The hall was decorated by Mrs. Jerry Ransom and Mrs. Robert Adams.

The closing prayer was said by Robert Adams. Bill Ransom asked the blessing before the meal.

The Rev. J. W. Byrd is the pastor of the church. There were 30 people in attendance.

Revival Services Scheduled At Grimsley Church

Revival services will be held at Grimsley Church, Highway 903, between Maury and Snow Hill, March 7-11. The Rev. Robert May will be the guest evangelist, with the services beginning each evening at 7:30.

The pastor, the Rev. Donald Fader, and the congregation invite everyone to attend.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 7)

can to reach him before his life ends. Jose represents the millions of lost people around the world who are just like him.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

A certain evangelist came for special services; and God heard the prayers of His followers. The Holy Spirit moved among the people—many were saved; others were brought closer to the Lord. New families came into the church; attendance soared to 95. Everyone was overjoyed, and Sunday school classes were running over. In fact, the quaint little church was overcrowded. Sometimes it was so packed that no one could hear what was being said in the Sunday school classes that met in the sanctuary.

Three months passed. The church leadership announced, "What we need is a new Sunday school facility."

"But we don't have the money," was the reply. (They had never begun a building fund.)

"We don't have enough land," someone else echoed. (No one had ever considered such a need.)

Sometime later, a committee was appointed to study the matter. How amazed and horrified they were to discover that they now had seven Sunday school classes. Two of them were adult groups which met in different spots in the sanctuary; the teenagers assembled up front in the choir loft; the older adults met in the overflow room; and the children's classes were held in the basement. The average Sunday school attendance was 70; while morning worship crowds numbered between 60 and 90 people, all depending on who the pastor was at the time. The evening worship congregation was composed of 35 faithful individuals. On yes, 15 people usually made it to Bible study on Wednesday night.

With a sigh of relief they said, "We don't need more Sunday school rooms. What we need is a revival!"

Sound familiar?

No. of Memberships

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Incorporated

Incorporated under the Laws of the State of North Carolina

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that _____

_____

is a member of Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Incorporated.

This certificate may not be transferred without the consent and approval of the Board of Directors given in a meeting duly held.

WITNESS the corporate seal of the corporation and the signature of its duly authorized officers affixed this _____ day of _____, 19_____.

_____ President

_____ Secretary

(SEAL)

Upon proper motion on September 12, 1982, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. voted to offer memberships for sale at the cost of $100 each. Certificates of membership cannot be issued to individual natural persons. Membership is limited to organizations of the Free Will Baptist denomination as follows: churches, union meetings, quarterly district meetings, conferences, conventions, other organizations recognized and sponsored by the Free Will Baptist denomination and such other denominational groups or organizations within the framework of the Free Will Baptist denomination as may be approved by the Board of Directors. Any group desiring membership, according to the Charter, should make application with the cost of membership to the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

The application below can be used for this purpose; mail it, with $100 per desired certificate, to the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513-0158.

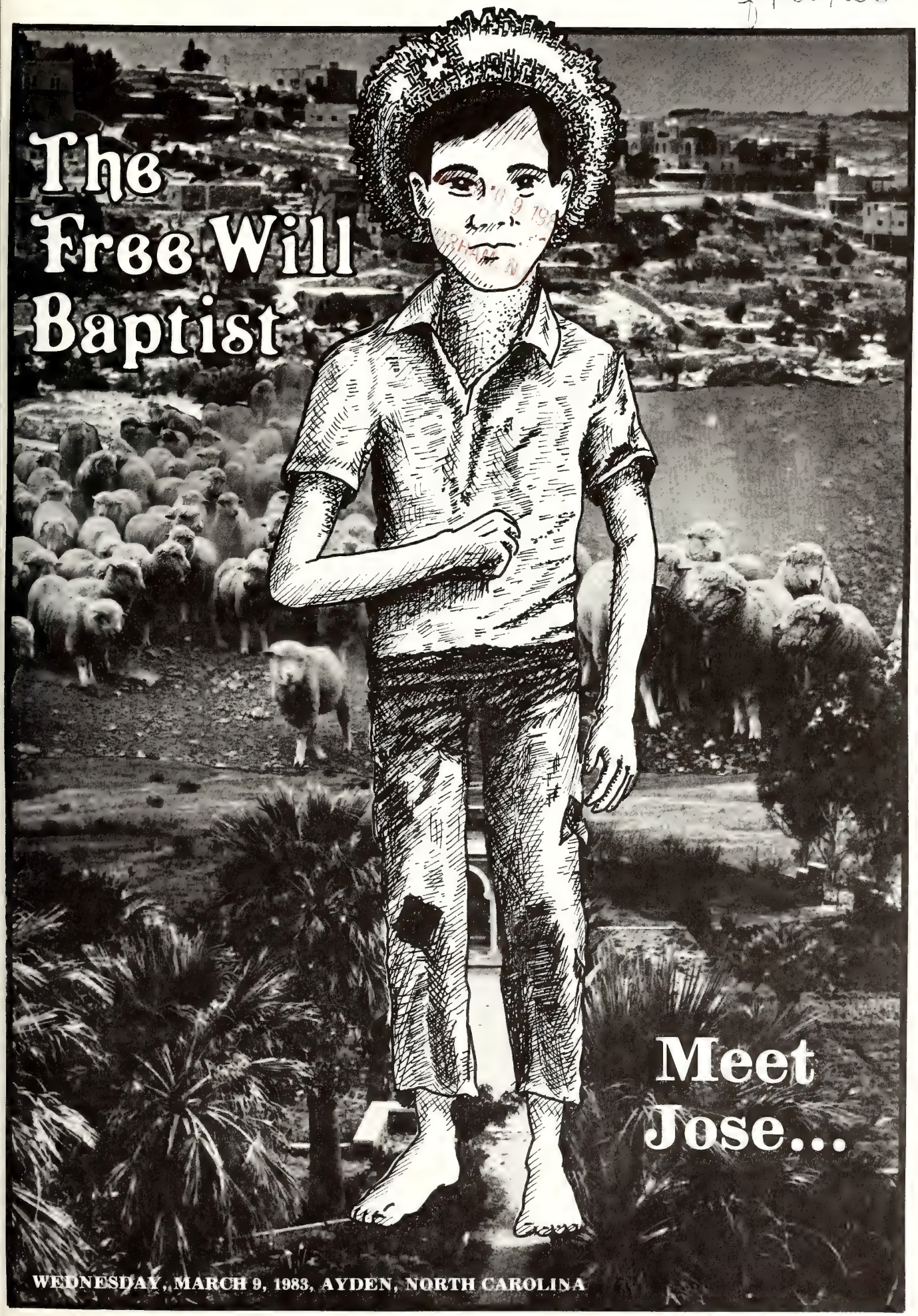
Name of Group _____

Mailing Address of Group _____

Desired number of Memberships _____ **Amount Enclosed** _____

DS
F857WB

The Free Will Baptist



Meet Jose...

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photos by Harold Lambert and Camerique

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Volume 98 Number 10

March 9, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

Edited and published forty-eight times a year by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158. Second-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina (USPS 209-440).

All materials to be placed in any issue must be in the hands of the editor seven days prior to the publication date of that issue.

The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.84; two years, $16.12; four years, $31.20 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

Fred A. Rivenbark, President; Dewey C. Boling, Vice President; Robert May, Secretary; C. Felton Godwin, Assistant Secretary; James B. Hardee; Walter Sutton; Clarissa May; Adrian Grubbs; Ruth Taylor; David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

Re: Urgent! We need your help!

Dear Free Will Baptists,

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation stands today as a symbol of much labor and Christian service. Dedicated to serving Christ in every area, the Press endeavors to promote unity for a singular cause. This we do by spreading the gospel, the story of God's love for all, through the printed page. The early years of the institution were plagued with financial difficulties; and today, we find ourselves in a financial dilemma once more.

The Press took a substantial loss during the last fiscal year, ending June 30, 1982. Since learning of that loss, we have taken cutbacks in many areas, but we still need money to carry on our daily operations. Our question to you is: Will you help us get back on top of the situation? That's right; we are turning to you for help in this our time of crisis.

The Press is an institution for which we as Free Will Baptists can be proud; and more importantly, it is part of our identity—a very important part. The role it plays in the work of our denomination cannot be overlooked. Likewise, our present problem cannot be taken for granted, either. That is why we are turning to you, for we need you.

Upon proper motion on September 12, 1982, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation voted to offer memberships for sale at the cost of $100 each. Certificates of membership cannot be issued to individual natural persons. Membership is limited to organizations of the Free Will Baptist denomination as follows: churches, union meetings, quarterly district meetings, conferences, conventions, other organizations recognized and sponsored by the Free Will Baptist denomination and such other denominational groups or organizations within the framework of the Free Will Baptist denomination as may be approved by the Board of Directors. Any group desiring membership, according to the Charter, should make application with the cost of membership to the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

With every new certificate, we gain needed capital. This relieves us of further debt and helps you see just how dependent we are on Free Will Baptists. Your contributions will help to assure our future.

Free Will Baptists have always rallied together and supported worthy causes. We feel our cause is quite worthy, and hope that you do, too. Your prompt response will affirm our belief.

Yours for Him,

W. J. Mayo

W. J. Mayo
Financial Director

(Please use the form on Page 16 for memberships.)

CRYSTAL WOOLARD —THE TEACHER

by Pepper Worthington

Crystal Woolard (left), a freshman at Mount Olive College, from Smyrna Church, and Dr. Pepper Worthington (right), professor of English, review some assignments following Crystal's class. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred B. Woolard of Blounts Creek, North Carolina.

Crystal Woolard.

She stands five-feet tall, curved at her knee joints, fingers, and hips. When she was three years old, she became afflicted with arthritis.

"Arthritis? At three?" I asked.

"Yes," she replied softly.

I looked at her. Her long light brown hair—auburn almost—swung by her face more gracefully than her cramped legs hung from her artificial—plated hips. Flushed cheeks made her face seem doll-like, as if she were a stuffed toy nestled in a child's room.

"Are you angry?" I asked. I wanted Crystal to talk to me, relax with me, allow me to be her friend. We were working together in the English room—Room 111—and she was whipping rubber bands around the folders even though her thumb bent inward as did several of her fingers. Realizing she couldn't climb stairs to talk with me, I invited her to work with me with the folders, giving us an activity to ease the tension for her in talking to me, her teacher. I felt she was dreadfully shy, but I also sensed she needed to be singled out, touched, heeded.

"Angry?" she paused. "Once maybe, but not now."

"When?"

"When what?" she flipped a rubber band around a folder. I was amazed at her agility.

"When were you angry?"

"Oh." She paused again. "When I was thirteen I think."

I didn't say anything—a trait not easy for me but I knew I had to let her talk in her own pace. Better to be silent. Wait. Allow her to say what she wants to say, I kept reminding my wiggly tongue.

"I guess," she continued slowly like a train just leaving the depot, "I saw all my friends running and dancing and there I was—confined to a wheelchair. I was angry. Angry at the world. Angry I couldn't be like my friends. Angry with God. I thought about myself, see, how lonely I was. Why did this have to happen to me, I kept asking. And then I prayed. Boy did I pray."

I said nothing. She was whipping rubber bands around the folders marked English 102, 101, 202, or 201 after the course numbers.

"I prayed hard," she said. "And you know what?"

"What?"

"Something happened inside of me—something real. I knew I couldn't fight this thing—this condition—all by myself. I was angry. I knew something had to break. And my prayers were heard. I began to believe—not in myself but in God. And then something happened. I began to believe in myself. Just because I can't walk fast or dance or run or write well doesn't mean I don't count for something. I do count. People come to me with their problems. To me! Can you believe that?"

I said nothing. I was having a hard time remembering what course numbers to put on the folders.

"You see," she elaborated as she looked from the folder to me and back to the rubber band. "People have handicaps. Everybody has a handicap. You have a handicap. I have a handicap. My handicap is just visible. You can see my problem. But some people's you can't see. But the handicap is there and people come to me. When I do them some good, I know I count. God has a reason for making me this way."

I said nothing. I was beginning to have this peculiar sensation—the sensation of reverse expectations. I was supposed to be helping Crystal Woolard, but as it was turning out, *she* was *witnessing* to me.

"You know," she said quietly as she sat down at an end desk. I sat too, the folders aside. "I think if I had it to do over again, I wouldn't want what everybody seems to want. Since I can't join them, I watch. I observe. And I am free from their restlessness. I have something else."

I said nothing. I was having a hard time breathing.

"I have," she paused, "an inner peace."

I said nothing.

"Don't believe, though, that I don't have my bad days. I mean, I'm not frigid. I have feelings. But I am not restless. And prayer has done that for me."

When Crystal left me, I watched her creep her way out the glass door, down the

(Continued on Page 15)

Free Will Baptists in the News

MOTIE CHERRY

Motie Bell Taylor Cherry, 58, of Morehead City, died Wednesday, February 23, at North Carolina Memorial Hospital, Chapel Hill, following a six-month illness. Her funeral was held at 2 p.m., Saturday, February 26, at the First Free Will Baptist Church, North Haughton Street, Williamston. The Rev. James Joyner of Kenly officiated. Burial was in Martin Memorial Gardens, Williamston.

Mrs. Cherry, who had lived in Morehead City for two years, is survived by her husband, the Rev. Roland Cherry, pastor of Crab Point Free Will Baptist Church, Morehead City; a daughter, Linda Finnell of Micro; two sons, Eugene Cherry of Selma and Ralph Cherry of Vacaville, California; a brother, William N. Taylor of Williamston; a sister, Mildred Reimer of Miami, Florida; and eight grandchildren.

The family suggests that memorial donations be made to Mount Olive College.

THE REV. HILERY M. MINCHEW

The Rev. Hilery M. Minchew, 83, retired Free Will Baptist minister, died Tuesday, February 22. The funeral was held Thursday, at 3 p.m. at the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Kenly. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Surviving him are his wife, Sally Whaley Minchew; daughters, Mrs. Viva Parks, Mrs. Velva Brock, and Mrs. Sue Turner, all of Kenly; Mrs. Ruth Evans of Goldsboro; Mrs. Peggy Newcomb of Fremont; sons, the Rev. Earl Minchew and James Ollie Minchew, both of Goldsboro, Stephen E. Minchew of Kenly, Van Minchew of Gainesville, Florida, Othal Minchew of Four Oaks; 24 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Minchew pastored fourteen churches and preached in eighty-nine others.

ALVESTER B. WILLOUGHBY

The life of Mr. Alvester B. Willoughby, better known as "Bess," ended December 20, 1982, at the age of 84. He was a faithful member of Hickory Chapel Church, Ahoskie, as long as he was still able to attend and still gave his support.

Bess was smart, a home-loving man, never out at night, never married, because he was happy with his parents and never gave them any cause to worry.

When his parents passed away, he devoted himself to his three sisters who never married. He made them happy and gave them a feeling of security. Two of these sisters preceded him to the grave, and one remains.

He was a man of clean habits. He never drank, used profanity, and never complained of how he'd get along in the world after retiring from the farm, on which he had spent his entire life and was very proud of. Besides one sister to mourn her loss, there are many friends, as well as nieces and nephews, who will miss him.

Mrs. Bettie Tinkham

ANNIE MAE BENSON

Annie Mae Benson was born July 2, 1910. She was the daughter of Lonzo Preston and Sally Peedin. On June 9, 1982, we said good-bye to Annie Mae after her 3-year battle with cancer. Annie Mae was not an outspoken person, but her faithful presence and her friendly smile showed her love for God and her church. Annie Mae was married to Willard Benson and together they served our church as deacon and deaconess; also he taught the Willard Benson Sunday School Class, named for him, until his death several years ago. Annie Mae had no children or close family, but she had many brothers and sisters in Christ. She was an humble servant, and her faith in God sustained her during her illness. She accepted all things as God's will. In her last will and testament she bequeathed her earthly possessions to Powhatan Church, Clayton. What greater love has been shown by her to help carry on God's work! Our lives have been enriched by having had the opportunity to call her our Christian sister and friend.

Ethel Stephenson
Gala Hogg

WILLIE BYRD

Mr. Willie Vester Byrd was born April 15, 1905. He was the son of the late Thomas Sutton Byrd and Sallie Wright Byrd. He was married to Gladys Mae Johnson Byrd for 54 years. They have three children —Geraldine Crowder, Chalmers Byrd, and Ellen Dale Sanders; 6 grandchildren, Sandra Holloway, Kenneth Crowder, Janice Corbett, Richard Crowder, Teresa Dorman, and Wendell Sanders; 7 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great-grandchild.

Willie Byrd retired July 1, 1968, after completing 30 years of service as a mechanic II with the North Carolina State Equipment Department. After 13 years of retirement, he died on October 15, 1981. He left a lot of good memories behind. He was a good husband, wonderful father, and a good neighbor. He was dearly loved by everyone. Mr. Byrd was a member of Powhatan Church. He attended faithfully whenever his health would allow him. God bless you, Daddy. We know you are resting in peace.

Geraldine Crowder

ATTENTION—NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

The 1983 session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene on Thursday, May 12, at Cathedral Church, Durham, in the Piedmont District. Each auxiliary should represent with one delegate for each 25 members or fraction thereof, plus a registration fee of $10.

Many auxiliaries mail their registration fee in advance. This is a good thing to do, as it saves the delegate the trouble of handling the money. Also, in the event something happens at the last minute to prohibit your representing in person, your auxiliary is registered as having represented.

IMPORTANT: Please mail your fee before April 25, if possible, so that I will be able to get the list prepared and delivered to the convention registration committee for use on the morning of May 12. If you cannot possibly attend, please mail your fee anyway, as the convention needs your support. Mail your fee to the following address: Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, State Treasurer, 517 Westover Avenue, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

CENTRAL DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

Dear Auxiliary Women of the Central District:

The spring convention time is almost upon us. "Pressing toward the mark" (Philippians 3:14) has been selected as the theme for the convention, which will meet on Saturday, March 26, 1983, at Little Creek Church, located approximately 4 miles west of Ayden on Highway 903. Registration fee is $10.

Just as in many years past we are very thankful for the wonderful response to all the projects we support. *Please mail in advance* all contributions, *except* the two special offerings we ask you to bring to the convention, to *Mrs. Martha Pittman, Route 1, Box 24, Stantonsburg, North Carolina 27883.*

1. MISSIONS—Each auxiliary is requested to bring $25 to the convention to be divided as follows: $20 for our state mission projects ($3,500 for Foreign Missions and $2,500 for Home Missions) and $5 for Central Conference Missions. *Please* remember to pray for our missionary families and that God would call more laborers to the field. Also we urge each of you to continue to pray and support our Home Missions.

2. CRAGMONT—*Bring* your *talents* (money for the building fund) to the convention. These offerings, just as your mission offerings, will be brought to the altar as we have the roll call of auxiliaries. Please earmark your checks.

3. YOUTH WORK—The next district meeting for the youth will be held on Saturday, March 19, at King's Cross Roads Church, registration at 9 a.m.; meeting will start at 10 a.m. Please attend! Bring all your arts and crafts, also at this meeting will be the public speaking, Bible Bowl and Talent contests. Start now planning to attend Field Day at Tarboro Church.

4. MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE—Our Project is still the dishwasher for the kitchen, please send $20.

5. CHILDREN'S HOME—The Project is the Media Center; $20 is requested from each auxiliary.

6. RETIREMENT HOME—The state project is to send $20 during the year.

7. ANNA PHILLIPS STUDENT AID FUND—Please support this fund and help our youth in attending the college of their choice.

NOTE: *Three things we need to do!*

1. Send all Life-Time Memberships to Lois Strickland, Route 1, Walstonburg, North Carolina 27888 by March 15, 1983 (*URGENT THAT YOU DO THIS*).

2. Send all checks to our new treasurer, Mrs. Martha Pittman, Route 1, Box 24, Stantonsburg, North Carolina 27883.

3. Presidents share this with your auxiliary officers and other members.

Yours in Christ,
Mrs. Wallie Hargrove
Missions Chairman

ATTENTION EASTERN DISTRICT AUXILIARY MEMBERS

Let's all get ready to go to the Eastern District Auxiliary Convention, March 24, 1983. Our convention will be held at Bethlehem Church, at Chinquapin. The church is located in the Fountaintown Community of Duplin County on rural road 1001, nine miles south of Beulaville, North Carolina. Looking forward to seeing all of you there. Pray for our convention.

Versie Baldree
Vice President

ATTENTION WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

Now is the time to select your special woman of the year and honor her with an all expense paid trip to Camp Vandemere, (cost is $40), June 13-17. Send her resume to Margaret Ard, Route 1, Pink Hill, North Carolina 28572. The day for honoring her at camp will be announced later.

Chairman of Camp Vandemere
Woman of the Year

March is Foreign Missions Month

VICTORY MISSION GROUP SUPPORTING A MISSIONARY

Victory Mission, Hope Mills, recently wrote the Rev. Harold Jones, director of Foreign Missions, about supporting a missionary in its youth group. Mr. and Mrs. Tim Bridges are directors of the youth group.

For Valentine's Day, the group had a king/queen contest and a get-together party for the kids. They collected pennies for Foreign Missions. The boy and girl with the most pennies won as king and queen. Each of these received a small pocket Bible before the services on Sunday morning, February 13. A total of $30 was collected. The group plans to sell candy bars in March.

There is an average of 11 members in the group. It is also a plan of the group to adopt a Foreign Missionary family to support and correspond with on a monthly basis.

Upcoming Events at Faith Church

On Sunday, March 20, at 7 p.m., the New Creations, a gospel music and witnessing team from Mount Olive College, will be at Faith Church, Route 2, Four Oaks.

Revival services will begin on Monday, March 21, at 7:30 p.m., at the church. The Rev. Dewey Boling, pastor of Palmer Memorial Church in Garner, will be bringing the messages. The pastor, the Rev. Hubert Stanley, and the members invite everyone to come. There will be special singing each night.

Revival Services in Progress At Hugo Church

Revival services are in progress through March 11 at Hugo Church, Route 2, Grifton. The Rev. Harold Jones is the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each night. The pastor, the Rev. Tom Miller, and the members extend a special invitation.

Second Annual SS Workshop Planned for Albemarle Conference

The Second Annual Sunday School Workshop will be conducted for the Albemarle Conference on Friday, March 18, at Union Chapel Church near Plymouth. Registration will begin at 6:15 p.m. and the program will begin at 7 p.m. The Rev. Joe Griffith, president of the Sunday school convention will present the program entitled "Ministry to Growing Churches Through the Sunday School." A number of filmstrips and other visual aids will be used in the presentation. Refreshments will be provided by the host church during session breaks. Every officer and teacher of the Albemarle Sunday schools is encouraged to attend.

Upcoming Events for Symrna Church

The Gloryland Express Singers of Goldsboro will be singing at Smyrna Church, Blounts Creek, on Sunday, March 13, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. A. G. Smith, pastor, welcomes the public to attend.

Revival services will be held at the church the week of March 14-18. Prayer room opens at 7:15 p.m. with the services beginning at 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each evening. The Rev. Wayne King is the evangelist. Everyone is invited to come and worship.

Revival Services to Be at Gospel Outreach Church

Revival services will be held at Gospel Outreach Church, Jasper, March 14-18. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Buddy Sasser. The pastor of the church, the Rev. Bobby Brown, and the congregation invite the public to attend these services and bring a friend.

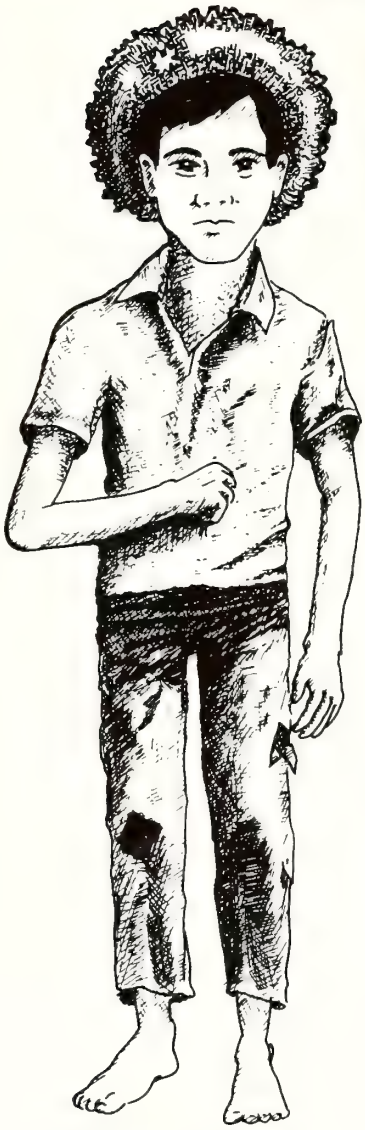
Fifth Eastern District Youth Rally to Be Held

The Fifth Eastern District Youth for Christ Rally will be held March 12, 1983, at 7:30 p.m., at Pamlico Junior High School Gym, Stonewall, North Carolina. The program will be a basketball game. All churches are urged to attend and bring everyone that would like to play. This is for all ages.

Revival Services Scheduled at Friendship Church

Revival services will be held at Friendship Church near Farmville, March 14-18. The Rev. Harold Jones will be the guest evangelist, with the services beginning each evening at 7:30. There will be special music each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Walter Reynolds, and the congregation invite everyone to attend.

MEET JOSE!



HE IS LOST!

He will probably never hear the gospel. Telethon Theme: Jose Needs Christ.

JOSE

Jose (Ho-za) is 10 years old. He lives in an isolated area of a third world country. He is a very intelligent boy. He loves nature. The birds and animals of the forest are his friends. Jose will live out his life in this area. He will follow in the footsteps of his father. He will raise rice and vegetables and keep a few pigs and chickens. He will probably marry at an early age and have a large family. His life will have its ups and downs, but will be fairly good if he works hard.

Jose will probably never hear the gospel. No one has ever been to this area with the gospel message and the prospect of someone going is very dim. He will have some type of religion, but will probably never be saved. Jose's life is hopeless. Unless someone takes the gospel to him, he will die and spend eternity in Hell.

Jose is a fictitious little boy, and yet he is not, for there are millions of children and adults just like him all over the world. They are born, they live out their life and die without ever hearing the gospel. Christian friend, will you tell them why?

Foreign Missions is the church in action in other lands. Christian friend, tell Jose why our efforts are so small that we cannot reach him.

TELETHON SUNDAY IS MARCH 27,
Your participation in this year's telethon will enable us to continue to reach out to the "Joses" of our world.

CALL AND REPORT YOUR MISSIONS OFFERING BETWEEN 1:30 and 5:00 P.M. PHONE: (919) 746-4963.

CHURCH GROWTH CONFERENCE
TO BE HELD IN MARCH

A Church Growth Conference will be held Thursday and Friday, March 10, 11, 1983, at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive. It is being sponsored by the Free Will Baptist Home Missions Department. The scheduled program is as follows:

THURSDAY

9:00—10:00 a.m.—Registration and Coffee
10:00—10:15 a.m.—Welcome and Devotional
10:15—11:45 a.m.—Workshop: *Daring to Desire to Grow;* leader, the Rev. Ora Johnson
11:45—12:00 a.m.—Discussion
12:00— 1:15 p.m.—Lunch
1:15— 2:30 p.m.—Workshop: *Growth Through Youth and Children;* leaders, Allan and Debbie Sterbin
2:30— 2:45 p.m.—Break
2:45— 4:15 p.m.—Workshop: *Discovering Church Growth Principles;* leader, the Rev. Ora Johnson
4:15— 4:30 p.m.—Discussion
4:30 p.m. —Adjournment

THURSDAY EVENING

7:30— 9:20 p.m.—Special Evangelism Rally at Rogers Chapel
—Congregational Singing under the direction of the Rev. Dean Kennedy
—Organ and Piano Music by the Rev. and Mrs. Ronnie Hobgood
—Special Soloist, Mott Batchelor
—Sermons by the Rev. Howard Starling and the Rev. Ora Johnson

FRIDAY

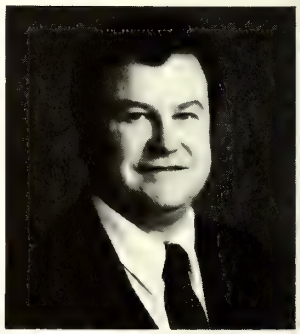
9:00— 9:30 a.m.—Coffee and Donuts
9:30—11:00 a.m.—Workshop: *Reaching the Reachable People;* leader, the Rev. Ora Johnson
11:00—11:15 a.m.—Break
11:15—12:00 a.m.—Message: *Revival in the Local Church;* speaker, the Rev. Keith Cobb
12:00— 1:15 p.m.—Lunch
1:15— 2:45 p.m.—Workshop: *Keeping Growth Going in Your Church;* leader, the Rev. Ora Johnson
2:45— 3:30 p.m.—Discussion and Wrap-up

Registration fee for the minister is $10 and for the layman, $5.

NOTE: A church can send as many as desired for a $25 registration fee. There is no registration charge for the Evangelism Rally on Thursday evening. It is urged that the churches send their pastor and at least one layman. One of the best investments a church can make is to pay the expenses of its pastor and lay people to attend this Conference. All funds will be used to pay expenses.

The Rev. Ora Johnson presently serves as pastor of Malden First General Baptist Church, Malden, Missouri. A graduate of Oakland City College, he is past Director of Evangelism for General Baptists, a post he held for seven years.

The Rev. Allan Sterbin serves as pastor of Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, North Carolina. His wife, Debbie, assists him in his ministry there.



The Rev. Howard Starling serves as pastor of Otway Free Will Baptist Church, near Beaufort, North Carolina.

The present pastor of Fremont Free Will Baptist Church, the Rev. Keith Cobb teaches evangelical teacher training courses at Carolina Bible Institute, Pine Level, North Carolina.

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

I would like to share with you some things that you should consider when selecting teaching methods.

First, remember that variety is the spice of life in teaching. Someone has said that the only bad teaching method is the one that is used all the time. In using a variety of methods we are following the example of our Lord. Read through the Gospels sometime and note the different teaching methods Jesus used. He used stories (parables), questions and answers (Luke 9:20), He encouraged questions (Luke 10:25-37), He used visual aids (a fig tree, flowers in a field, a mustard seed), and He sent His disciples out on projects as a way of teaching and training them (Luke 9:1-6). Why not make it a personal learning project to master as many teaching methods as you can?

Another important factor in choosing teaching methods is the age group with whom you are working. You may have discovered, for example, that a forty-minute lecture does not go over very well with children. Some experts say that a child remembers 10 percent of what he hears, 50 percent of what he sees, and 90 percent of what he does. Although this is exaggerated, it does contain much truth. Primary children, for example, enjoy and can learn a great deal from acting out simple Bible stories. Also, they love to sing and work with their hands. Juniors enjoy being creative through art and writing. Youth can learn much through some form of discussion. While some adults prefer the lecture methods, others like to select and plan their own topics and how they will study them. Do some research on the characteristics of your age group, get to know each person, and seek to use the teaching

(Continued on Page 15)

Church Finance

ANNUAL MEETING HELD

The Forty-third Annual Meeting of the Church Finance Association, Inc. was held February 15, 1983, at Reedy Branch Church, Winterville, North Carolina.

The Rev. Dewey Boling read Scripture and led in the opening prayer, after which the Rev. Willis Wilson, pastor of Reedy Branch Church, welcomed those in attendance. The Revs. Willis Wilson, Graham Lane, and William Dale served as the Nominating Committee; and the Rev. Lester Duncan, Wilson, North Carolina, Western Conference, was elected to serve on the Association's Board of Directors.

The Rev. Walter Reynolds, president of Church Finance Association, reported that all loans are in good standing, and that mortgage loans were down 8.17% from a year ago. Checks were issued to eight churches in the amount of $97,000 for new loans, and payments received on loans amounted to $194,707.19.

Cash amounts at the end of the year were up 43.27%, all of which are drawing interest and are immediately available but $100,000, which is a six-months certificate (it can be cashed in early by paying a penalty).

Deposits were down 8.09% from a year ago. Deposits were made in the amount of $75,623.93, and the Association issued checks in the amount of $113,014.34 to make refunds to the depositors who requested repayment. New deposits are welcome.

The Association's net worth at the end of the year increased to $309,360.55, up 19% from a year ago.

The financial statement follows.

CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION, INC.
Statement of Condition
Year ended 12/31/82

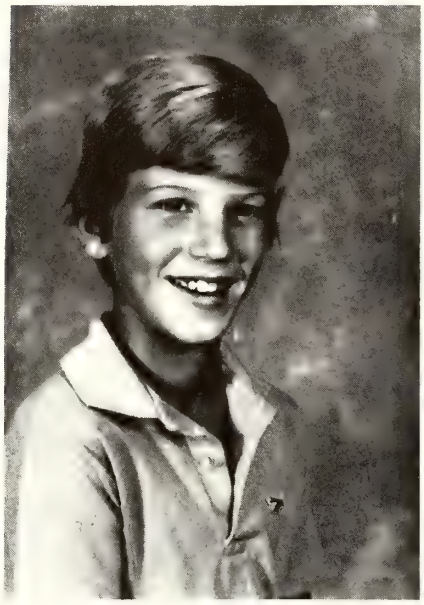
ASSETS:		
Mortgage Loans	$1,103,530.26	
Investments	101,712.50	
Checking Accounts	150,002.71	
Office Equipment (net)	1,388.76	
Real Estate	200.00	
Total		$1,356,834.23
LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH:		
Deposits	$ 992,933.98	
Membership Fees	52,939.70	
Accounts Payable	1,600.00	
Retained Earnings	309,360.55	
Total		$1,356,834.23

Statement of Earnings
Year ended 12/31/82

INCOME:		
Interest on Loans	$ 137,043.22	
Interest on Investments	23,642.16	
Loan Fees and Miscellaneous Income	1,196.50	
Total		$ 161,881.88
EXPENSES:		
Interest on Deposits	$ 89,404.31	
Expenses	23,144.86	
Total		$ 112,549.17
Net Earnings		$ 49,332.71

The meeting was well attended; spirits were good; and a high level of interest was expressed in the Association's work.

PERMANENCY PLANNING



Mike

Much attention has been given in recent years to what has been termed "permanency planning" i.e., making a permanent plan with respect to the child who must be separated from his family. A permanent plan may involve such options as return to the biological family, adoption, long-term foster family care, group home care, or independent living.

The permanency planning efforts of the State are resulting in more preventive services to avoid placement away from the child's family.

The child care institutions are committed to permanency planning. They are accepting children and providing more family services, and working to reunite families or develop permanent plans for children in care.

Permanency planning is resulting in more specialized short-term care. This goal provides for the family, child, social worker, child care workers and administration a defined plan to help the family and child. Together, with everyone working for the same goal, the results are very positive. This, in many cases, results in family and child being reunited and continuing life as a family unit.

Chris

We at the Home are seeking to strengthen our Family Services program to make it one of the best.

The question has been set forth, "Why is resident population down?", "Why do we only have 17 children on campus?" Last year we discharged 21 children and overall served 55 children. Isn't it great to know that we were able to help this many children? Most of the children discharged returned to their families: (17 to families, 2 to higher education, 2 to independent living).

Child care over the past ten years has changed drastically. There are children who still need group care and we can provide it. There are children and families who need help and we are providing it.

We as a denomination are "suffering the little children" to come. And the Home is helping them meet their needs physically, spiritually, and mentally.

The question has been set forth, "Why does it take so many employees for so few children?" The Home operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, in caring for children. If you had to hire people to operate your home and to give specialized care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, how many employees would it take? It takes people to work with people; it's that simple. We do it with 13 full-time employees.

Chris, who came to the Home July 1, 1980, and Mike, August 30, 1982, were discharged January 28, 1983 to return to their family. Through working together with the family, children, social worker, houseparents and all other staff, goals were met that allowed this family to reunite. We at the Home will miss Mike and Chris, but we wish them the very best in life. May God continue to bless as only He can.

Bobby R. Taylor
Director of Child Care

NEW ADMISSIONS

Pictured above are Shane and Boo, who were admitted to the Home, February 11. Shane is ten years old and in the third grade. Boo is six years old and in the first grade. These boys have joined the Central Cottage family. Their houseparents are Mr. and Mrs. Charles Owens. We are very happy to include these fine children in our family.

TUTORIAL ASSISTANCE OFFERED

Danny Mitchell (center), a senior at Duke Divinity School, is serving an internship this spring at Mount Olive College in the Religion Department. As an intern, Danny is providing tutorial assistance to students enrolled in New Testament. He is a 1978 graduate of Mount Olive.

He is pictured with Dr. Michael Pelt, (left) chairman of the humanities division, and Jeff Harrison, a ministerial student at Mount Olive and a member of Marlboro Church.

Danny is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Mitchell of Bridgeton. He plans to continue his studies, pursue a doctorate in religion, and then teach at a college. The Mitchells are members of the Bridgeton Church.

POET TO SPEAK

Samuel (Sam) T. Ragan, Poet Laureate of North Carolina, will be the speaker for the Pierson Lecture to be presented on Tuesday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m., in the College auditorium. He will present his views on North Carolina literature in the twentieth century.

Ragan has been a journalist, newspaper editor, college special lecturer, poet, and author. He is the author of two prize-winning collections of poetry, *The Tree in the Far Pasture* and *To the Water's Edge*. His latest book of poetry, *Journey into Morning,* was published in 1982. He is presently serving as editor and publisher of *The Pilot* in Southern Pines, North Carolina.

The Pierson Lecture at Mount Olive College is sponsored by Mary Bynum Borgognoni of Mount Olive in memory of the late Dr. William Whately Pierson. The lecture is free and open to the public.

HIGH SCHOOL DAY AT MOC

High School Day at Mount Olive College is Saturday, April 16, beginning at 9:45 a.m., and we would like to encourage pastors and youth directors to begin early and plan to bring a group from their churches. Now is the time to encourage high school students to attend Mount Olive College, and a visit to the campus is one of the best means of letting them know what the College has to offer Free Will Baptists.

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION TO BE TAUGHT

A course in *Church Administration* will be taught on Mondays, March 14—May 2, from 8-9:45 p.m., by the Rev. Frank R. Harrison in Room 109 of the Henderson Building. The course is designed to acquaint the student with the basic administrative responsibilities of the pastor. Ministers, deacons, and others involved in church administration will find the course helpful.

Tuition is $20 for Paul Palmer credit or $10 for non-credit. Registration can be completed at the first class meeting.

IN MEMORIAM—CLYDE JACKSON BANKS

Clyde Jackson Banks
1880-1983

Clyde Jackson Banks, a deacon and long-time member of Friendship Church, Trenton, died January 10, 1983. He was 93 years old and had spent his entire life in Jones County where he was a noted leader in church and community affairs.

Affectionally known as "Uncle Clyde" by both his relatives and friends, he placed priority on his services and support to his church. The Banks's home was known through the years for its hospitality to pastors, evangelists, and visiting ministers. His beloved wife, Lena Mallard Banks, to whom he was married fifty years, predeceased him in 1973.

In community affairs, Mr. Banks served on the Jones County Board of Education for a record of twenty-two years. He was a pioneer in securing electrical services for Jones County, and in recognition of his leadership in agriculture he

(Continued on Page 15)

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

Scripture Reading—1 Kings 18-21

A HALLOWED SPOT TO BILLY SUNDAY

"I had better check on that bird. He's acting queerly," said a burly Irish cop as he walked toward a well-dressed man who stood near the curb with head bowed, eyes closed and mumbling. "Had a little too much, comrade?" he asked the stranger. "No, officer. I'm Billy Sunday. This is the spot where, years ago, I was converted from sin to the Saviour. Whenever I come to Chicago, I come to this spot so sacred to me and thank God for His marvelous grace in saving me!"

"Put it here, Billy," said the genial cop as he extended his hand. "Stay here and pray all you want to. I'll stand by and see that nobody molests you. And say a little prayer for me, too!"

There is no spot to me more dear
Than native vale and fountain;
A spot for which affection's tear
Springs grateful from its fountain!

'Tis not where kindred souls abound,
'Though that were almost Heaven;
But where I first my Saviour found
And felt my sins forgiven!

MONDAY, MARCH 14

Scripture Reading—1 Kings 22; 2 Kings 1, 2

DOWN ON YOUR KNEES—PRAY NOW!

"Who is there?" cried a sentinel one night to a British soldier who was creeping stealthily back to his quarters from a nearby clump of trees. The sentinel was not satisfied with the soldier's explanation, so he took him to the commanding officer. There the soldier explained, "I went into the woods to pray alone. That is my only defense." The officer asked, "Have you been in the habit of spending hours in private prayer?" "Yes, Sir," answered the soldier. "Then down on your knees and pray now," demanded the officer. The soldier knelt. He prayed earnestly and without hesitancy. When he had finished his prayer, the officer said, "You may go. I believe your story. If you hadn't often prayed alone, you couldn't have done so well here!"

Then let us earnest be,
And never faint in prayer;
He loves our importunity,
And makes our cause His care.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

Scripture Reading—2 Kings 3-6

MUELLER'S TESTIMONY

I spend hours in prayer every day. But I live in the spirit of prayer. I pray as I walk and when I lie down. I pray when I awake. The answers are always coming. Thousands of times have my prayers been answered. When I am persuaded that a thing is right, I go on praying until the answer comes. I never give up. I have been praying every day for fifty-two years for two men, sons of a friend of my youth. They are not converted yet, but they will be. How can it be otherwise when we have the unchanging promises of God!

Whisper a prayer in the morning,
Whisper a prayer at noon,
Whisper a prayer in the evening,
To keep your heart in tune.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

Scripture Reading—2 Kings 7-10

WORKING ON YOUR KNEES

A minister was watching some men repairing a section of a highway. His attention was especially drawn to an elderly man who knelt as he broke stones for the hole in the highway. The minister observed that this man did more work than the ones who were standing while breaking stones. Then he said to the kneeling man, whom he knew well, "John, I wish I could break the stony hearts of my hearers as easily as you are breaking those stones!" With a twinkle in his eyes John said, "Pastor, you could if you worked on your knees!"

God answers prayer in the morning,
God answers prayer at noon,
God answers prayer in the evening,
To keep your heart in tune.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

Scripture Reading—2 Kings 11-14

EARTH'S LAST PRAYER MEETING

The prayer meeting is, in many churches, defunct or dead. It is only a lingering memory in the minds of some of the older saints. Yet I would

remind you that earth's best attended prayer meeting is yet future. How different it will be from any other prayer meeting! See who they are who are praying—"And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman and every free man" (Revelation 6:15). Observe to whom this unique assemblage will address its prayer—"the mountains and rocks." Hear what they unitedly and fervently pray for—"Hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne." We need but three words with which to describe their prayer—dead in earnest! Their prayer, even if they would address it to God, would be *too late.* The day of grace will have been superseded by the day of God's wrath!

Jesus may come in the morning,
Jesus may come at noon,
Jesus may come in the evening,
So keep your heart in tune.

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

Scripture Reading—2 Kings 15-17

GOD ANSWERED THE OTHER WAY

Frank Sheriff, a former superintendent of the Christian Business Men's Association in Chicago, and his little girl prayed earnestly for the recovery of the wife and mother. But, after much suffering, she died. The little girl sought to comfort her father. She said, "Daddy, God answered our prayers *the other way,* didn't He?" She meant that God had answered their prayers, but not the way they had prayed. Sometimes God, in infinite wisdom, answers our prayers with a *no*! But this is certain—He always answers our prayers in keeping with His wondrous plans and eternal purposes.

When thou prayest, rather let thy heart be without words than thy words without heart. Prayer will make a man cease from sin, or sin will entice a man to cease from prayer.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

Scripture Reading—2 Kings 18-21

ALL NIGHT PRAYER

How greatly impressed I was, in the beginning years of my Christian life, with the custom of the pastor of the church where I was saved occasionally to pray all night with his deacons and other consecrated Christians. One night, as they were praying in the pastor's study in the church, a drinking dentist passed by on his way home. The hour was late. Seeing a light beaming from the pastor's study, he went to investigate. He was told that he had been one of those for whom they had unitedly prayed during the hours of the night. It wasn't long before the dentist was on his knees crying to God for mercy and forgiveness.

Oh, the power of *united* prayer! "If *two* of you shall agree . . . as touching *any thing* that they shall ask, it *shall* be done for them of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 18:19). What wouldn't God do for us if there were more of us emulating the example of our Lord who often continued all night in prayer.

Prayer is not an all-out effort to overcome God's unwillingness to "do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think" (Ephesians 3:20). *God has been waiting to fill us with all the fulness of God, and to grant to us the blessings for which we pray. There is no unwillingness on God's part to bless us, but often there is unreadiness on our part!*

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

FIFTH EASTERN YOUTH RALLY NEEDS ADDRESSES

The mailing list for sending cards to the churches in the Fifth Eastern District needs updating. Please send the following information to Linda Williams, P.O. Box 11, Merritt, North Carolina 28556, by March 25th.

Thank you!

Name of Church _____

_____

Pastor's Name _____

_____

Address _____

_____

Sunday School Superintendent _____

_____

Address _____

_____

Youth Leader _____

_____

Address _____

_____

For March 13

AN EMPOWERED FELLOWSHIP

Lesson Text: Acts 2:1-4, 12-18, 37, 38
Memory Verse: Zechariah 4:6

I. INTRODUCTION

Before power tools were invented, quarrying was done by simple hand tools. A skilled quarryman with several iron wedges could split off a slab of stone with a few powerful blows with a heavy mallet. Occasionally, however, quarrymen would run into an especially hard strata of stone that would not readily yield to their mallet and wedges. When this happened, they replaced them with wedges made of dense, hard wood. After these were driven securely into the stone, they were covered with water and kept wet. After a few hours, the tremendous pressure exerted by the expanding wooden wedges would cause the stone to split.

On Pentecost the Holy Spirit came with a tremendous display of power that was obvious to everyone. Like the quarryman, He accomplished His purpose in a few powerful blows. Some would have us believe that the Spirit must manifest Himself in a similar way today. But we shall see that the Spirit was far more likely to operate quietly, perhaps more slowly, and without such an obvious display of power. Yet like the wedges of wood, He, nevertheless, accomplished His purpose.

Ten days before the events described in this chapter, Jesus had ascended to Heaven, leaving behind His somewhat bewildered band of apostles. But even though they were not quite sure about what was happening, they had the good sense to obey our Lord's final instructions and return to Jerusalem, there to await the coming of the Holy Spirit.

But they were not idle during that waiting period. They continued meeting together for prayer, and, carrying out the prophecies of the Old Testament, they chose a successor to take the place of Judas, the traitor. Now on the Day of Pentecost their obedience and patience come to full fruition.

The Holy Spirit was present and active in the Old Testament, but His special arena of activity was the New Testament period. Joel in his prophecy highlighted the coming of this new Spirit-filled era, and before He left His disciples Jesus prepared them for the Spirit's coming.

On Pentecost the Spirit came forcefully and with visible signs. Similar activity is mentioned in connection with the conversion of the Gentile Cornelius (Acts 10:44-46). These manifestations of the Spirit were necessary in the first presentation of the gospel in Jerusalem and the first presentation of the gospel to Gentiles. But in numerous other examples of conversions recorded in the New Testament there is no such miraculous outpourings of the Spirit. We may well conclude from this that we today need not expect the Spirit to operate in these extraordinary ways.

Yet we must be careful lest we discount the power of the Holy Spirit in conversion and in the lives of believers. He is just as active today as He was in the first century, even if His activities are not as dramatic. Further, we have one advantage that persons at Pentecost did not have. We have the New Testament inspired by the Holy Spirit to lead us into the paths of righteousness. Would we not be wise to study those writings in order to find the guidance that the Holy Spirit offers? —*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. Many people feel that the Holy Spirit came in answer to prayer. As much as we believe in the power of prayer, we must point out that He did not come in answer to prayer. He came in order to fulfill a promise that had been made to the disciples. He came exactly on schedule.

B. Note the use of the word *all* in this lesson. They *all* assembled; they *all* were filled with the Holy Spirit; they *all* witnessed; and they *all* shared possessions. What a great picture of unity and cooperation!

C. The coming of the Holy Spirit was perceptible. They saw; they felt; and they heard His coming. There was no mistake about it, His coming was perceptible.

D. The coming of the Holy Spirit was personal. The Holy Spirit is a Person and this Person is God. He is the Third Person of the Trinity of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit. He came to each of the disciples.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A man went to visit a friend on a cloudy afternoon so dark that headlights were necessary. His friend greeted him so eagerly that he forgot to turn off his lights. Hours later, the man found that the car's battery was exhausted. He had to call for a man to bring a battery and start the engine. When it was in action, the engine soon recharged the battery.

All of us need to be restarted at times by the Holy Spirit. How does He do it?—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 3)

cement steps of the Henderson Building, onto the grass lawn, across the sidewalks and I suddenly realized something embarrassing.

I had not witnessed to Crystal. She had witnessed to me.

She had become the teacher and I had become the student.

(Pepper Worthington is an English professor at Mount Olive College.)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 11)

was the recipient of the Master Farmers Award.

Mr. Banks is survived by his daughter, Margaret Carol, a retired vocational Home Economics teacher and also an active member of Friendship Church.

Banks Endowment Fund

From the early beginning of Mount Olive College, the Banks family has been an ardent supporter of this work. For many years, Miss Margaret Carol Banks served as Chairman of the annual Jones County dinner for the College. In 1970, the family established the "Clyde J. Banks Family Endowment" fund to which they have made annual gifts. In addition, memorial contributions were added by relatives and friends following the death of Mrs. Banks in 1973 and Mr. Banks in 1983.

Assets of the Banks Endowment now exceed $11,000. The fund is adequate to produce a perpetual income of approximately $1,000 annually to advance Christian higher education through Mount Olive College. Through their endowment, Lena and Clyde Banks will live on in the lives of young men and women whom they will continue to help prepare for Christian life and service.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper (Psalm 1:3).

PLEASE NOTE!

The following song was written by the Rev. Fred P. Baker for use during Foreign Missions Month. The word **Lord,** found in the first line of the third verse, was inadvertantly omitted on the bulletin cover sent to churches for use during March. You will need to add this word in order for the song's timing to be correct.

WIN THE LOST

Teach us to pray, Lord! Help us to pray!
Show us the harvest; from day to day.
Billions are dying, in heathen night,
They've never heard of, Jesus the Light.

Teach us to give, Lord! Help us to give!
So they may hear of, Jesus and live.
Great is the cost Lord, Great is the cost!
But if we fail Lord, Billions are lost.

Teach us to go, Lord! Help us to go
to—the place where, we may show,
Billions the Saviour, Jesus thy Son!
For in His Blood, new life is begun.

Copyright c 1982 Fred P. Baker
Sing to tune of "Have Thine Own Way, Lord."
Music out from under copyright.

For further use of the song, contact the Rev. Fred Baker or the Board of Foreign Missions (Box 38, Ayden, North Carolina 28513; [919] 746-4963).

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 9)

methods that seem best suited for them.

Teaching methods should also be selected in light of the learning aim of the lesson, that is, what do you want to see happen in the lives of the learners as a result of this lesson? What methods will best help this happen? For example, if your lesson aim is for them to understand the Exodus, then you will use methods suited for transferring content or factual information. Such methods would be a lecture, questions and answers, reading and reporting, quizzes and recitations. Now if your lesson aim is to help them discover the importance of worship for their lives, you would use other methods. For example, instead of just lecturing them on attending church, you might let them design worship services to be used right in class. Or, you could invite the minister to sit in and let the class ask him questions about worship, especially the worship service used in their church. The possible teaching methods are as limited as your imagination.

(**NEXT WEEK:** A meeting you will not want to miss.)

CHURCHES PARTICIPATING IN THE WIDOW'S FUND

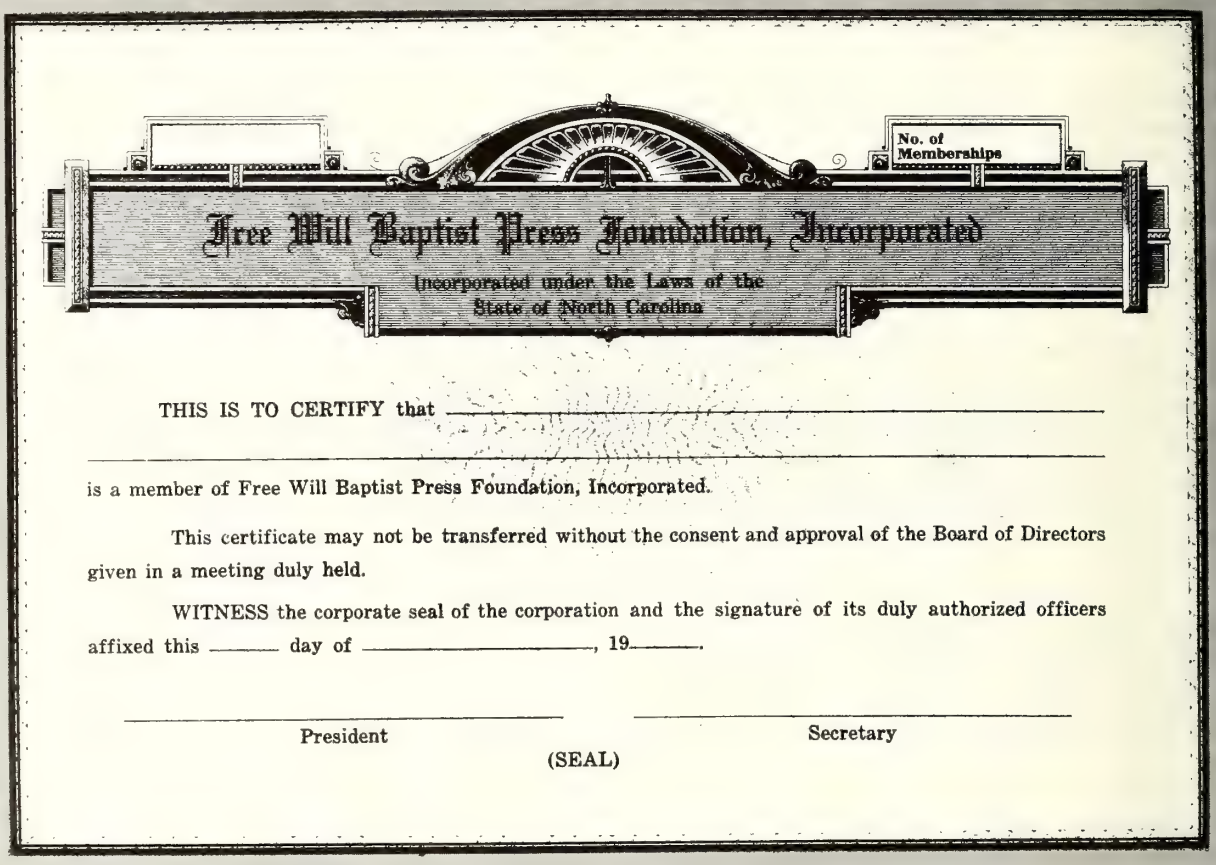
Please note that a minister has died since our last announcement: The Rev. Hilery M. Minchew. Gifts of $50 are now due from those participating in the program. Please respond accordingly.

Churches will be notified through *The Free Will Baptist* when a minister dies.

Walter Reynolds

STUDY COURSE PLANNED

A study course will be held at Oak Grove Church, near Elm City, on Thursday, March 10, at 7:30 p.m. The topic for the meeting will be "Prayer." The speaker for the occasion is the Rev. Wayne Whitley. Everyone is invited to attend.



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Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Incorporated

Incorporated under the Laws of the State of North Carolina

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that _____

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is a member of Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Incorporated.

This certificate may not be transferred without the consent and approval of the Board of Directors given in a meeting duly held.

WITNESS the corporate seal of the corporation and the signature of its duly authorized officers affixed this _____ day of _____, 19_____.

President _____ Secretary _____

(SEAL)

Upon proper motion on September 12, 1982, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. voted to offer memberships for sale at the cost of $100 each. Certificates of membership cannot be issued to individual natural persons. Membership is limited to organizations of the Free Will Baptist denomination as follows: churches, union meetings, quarterly district meetings, conferences, conventions, other organizations recognized and sponsored by the Free Will Baptist denomination and such other denominational groups or organizations within the framework of the Free Will Baptist denomination as may be approved by the Board of Directors. Any group desiring membership, according to the Charter, should make application with the cost of membership to the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

The application below can be used for this purpose; mail it, with $100 per desired certificate, to the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513-0158. _____

Name of Group _____

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

F857WB

The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 98 Number 11
March 16, 1983
Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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All materials to be placed in any issue must be in the hands of the editor seven days prior to the publication date of that issue.

The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.84; two years, $16.12; four years, $31.20 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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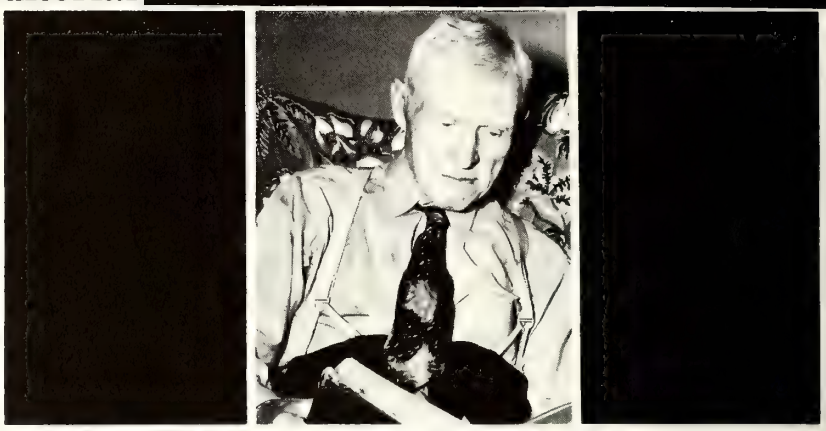
Editorial



The Man in the Dark Shadows

Be not deceived, God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap (Galatians 6:7).

Ten, twenty, thirty, forty years from now, you are going to meet an old man down the road ahead—he'll be waiting for you, and you'll be catching up with him. What kind of man will he be? Well, he may be seasoned, soft, gracious, a gentleman who has grown old gracefully. He may be surrounded by his many friends, all of whom call him blessed because of what he has meant to them. Then again, he may be bitter, disillusioned, dried-up, a cynical old fellow, a man without a good word for anybody. He may be sour, friendless, alone.

The kind of old man you will meet depends entirely on yourself, the reason being, that old man will be you. He will be a composite of everything you do, say, and think today—tomorrow. His mind will be set in a mold you have fashioned by your present attitudes. His heart will be turning out what you are putting in. Every little thought, every little deed goes into this man, for this person will be exactly what you make him. Nothing more. Nothing less. It's up to you. There is no one else you can credit or blame.

Every day we live, we are becoming. We come to talk more like ourselves; we think more like ourselves. We are becoming ourselves more and more. As a result, we should open our lives to others, thinking all the while of what we can contribute to life. The little things that make us what we are—our attitudes, goals, ambitions, desires—are adding up, crystallizing in our hearts and minds. Some day they will "harden" and we will not be able to change, at least not very easily. The time for us to take care of that old man is right now—this week—today. We need to examine our motives, attitudes, and goals. We need to check on them today. We will be much easier to change while we are plastic, while we are still in a formative condition. The day will come too quickly when it will be too late. The hardness which will set in is worse than a paralysis—our characters will crystallize, set, and gel.

Any wise businessman takes inventory regularly, but his merchandise is not half as important as he is. Each of us would do well to take a bit of personal inventory too. We all need to do so, in the light of Christ and His Word. We would stand a much better chance of being a splendid old fellow at the proper time; we would stand a better chance of being what we'd like to be.

A NEEDFUL MINISTRY

Frank R. Harrison
Director of Denominational Services
Mount Olive College

When one looks at the Scriptures, it does not take much effort to realize that the Judeo-Christian religion portrays the aged of every generation as honored people. Many references that point to the role and usefulness of the "elders" can be found in both the Old and New Testaments. Among these is the recognition by Joshua of his own limitations, so he called the elders together and assigned them to places of leadership. The Apostle Paul appointed elders as overseers and administrators of the Early Church.

However, the place and role of the senior citizen is not always clear or even appreciated in our society today. There is often confusion on behalf of the senior citizens themselves as to their role, and there is often bewilderment on behalf of some churches as to the role and place of the senior citizen. Yet one of the greatest challenges before us today is how the Church can minister to the senior citizen and

(Turn the Page)

how the senior citizen can be involved in ministry within the Church and continue to make a contribution to the Kingdom and to society.

It might be well to ask who are the senior citizens? For purposes of my brief discussion here I am referring to all those 65 years and over. When consideration is given to persons of 65 and over in the United States, that is quite a number!

According to the 1980 census, there were nearly 26 million persons in the United States over age 65. Among those, 77 percent of the men were married, 52 percent of the women were widowed. Over age 75, 70 percent of the women were widowed, 69 percent of the men were married. Among women over 65, 41 percent live alone. Nearly three out of four widows and widowers over 65 live alone.

Average household income in 1978 was nearly twice as high for families headed by someone aged 55 to 64 ($19,434) as for those headed by persons over 65 ($10,291). Among those over 65, 6.4 million had incomes in 1980 that classified them as being in poverty or near poverty—below $4,926 for individuals, $6,192 for couples. Social Security is the only income for 25 percent of persons 65 years and older.

Most adults over age 50 are active and in good health. "Poor health" is reported as a serious problem by 16 percent of those aged 55-64, and 21 percent of those aged 65 and over.

Elderly families and individuals spend relatively larger amounts of money on housing, food, and medical care than do younger consumers. The largest consumption item is housing, approximately 32 percent followed by food 25 percent, transportation 15 percent, and medical care 10 percent. However, these are approximate averages and many vary greatly from individual to individual.

Unfortunately about 14.1 percent or 3.2 million persons 65 and over were below the poverty level in 1977. The proportion below that level was much higher for elderly persons living alone or with non-relatives (27 percent) than for those living in families.

The number of older adults in our society is expected to increase in the coming years. According to the Governor's report on North Carolina in the year 2000, our state will have in excess of one million citizens 65 and over who will constitute 13 percent of our state population. This age group represents a significant part of most churches and brings to us a challenge for the future. What ministry can we provide and how can we help them to find their role and place in the church? Too often, the church has simply ignored the senior citizens while expending funds and personnel on other segments and projects for the local congregation.

The time has come when the church must seriously address the need and role of the senior citizen. Can we come to see aging as a gift and the later years of life as a time of fulfillment, joy, and well-being, and that the best is yet to be as we grow in our Christian pilgrimage? Sometimes great opportunities to serve parishioners are missed because the local church and pastor are not fully aware of the needs of the aging.

If religion is to be meaningful for senior citizens, it must relate itself to their changing needs. The presentation of vital truths to live by is important to the aging person. This is the task of the minister and the local church.

Ministry to the aging may express itself through those activities within the local church as well as helping them to meet their other needs such as transportation, nutrition, home repair, security, and others.

With its resources of literature, the local church could offer courses such as "How We Got Our Bible," "The Psalms," "The Gospels," "The Prophets," "The Church at Work in the World," "The Christian in Today's Society," "The Teachings of Jesus," "Legislation Pertaining to the Health, Finances, and General Welfare of Older People." Book reviews are frequently enjoyed by many older people. Ask them what would be of interest and be meaningful to them.

The following suggestions include some ways in which churches could assist older adults in their communities and help meet some of their special needs. This list is by no means comprehensive. It will be the task of each congregation to explore those avenues through which they can best serve the older adults in their midst.

1. Provide transportation service for elderly members of the congregation to doctor, grocery store, etc. if none is available.
2. Assist in taking "home-delivered" meals to the frail and isolated.
3. Initiate a telephone reassurance program.
4. Initiate a friendly visiting program.
5. Have the congregation "adopt" an older person or older family.
6. Provide a ministry in the local nursing home.
7. Help "link" older persons in the congregation with local aging programs (meals, medical care, etc.).
8. Recruit the elderly as volunteers or in the planning of programs.
9. Set up "food banks" or special meals for the elderly.

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Smyrna Church to Have Revival Services

Smyrna Church, Blounts Creek, will be having its spring revival, March 14-19. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Wayne King of Kinston. There will be special singing each night. The pastor of the church is the Rev. A. G. Smith.

Gum Swamp Church to Have Revival Services

Revival services will be held at Gum Swamp Church near Belvoir, March 21-25. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m., with a different speaker each night: Monday, the Rev. Jerry Rowe; Tuesday, the Rev. Robert May; Wednesday, the Rev. Charles Crisp; Thursday, the Rev. Leon Harris; and Friday, the Rev. Jack Mayo. A nursery will be provided. There will be special music each evening. Everyone is invited to attend these services. The pastor is the Rev. Ray Williamson.

Union Chapel Church To Host Workshop

Union Chapel Church near Plymouth will host the Albemarle Sunday School Workshop on Friday, March 18. Registration begins at 6:15 p.m. The program will be "Ministry to Growing Churches Through the Sunday School."

Little Rock Youth Have Program

Jesus' words to Peter, "Feed My Sheep," were given a literal application by the AFC and YFA (Youth) groups at Little Rock Church, Lucama, on February 25, 26. It is also interesting that the only miracle of Jesus recorded by all four of the Gospel writers is the "feeding of the five thousand." The youth groups participated in a twenty-four hour "planned famine" or "fast" co-sponsored by the North Carolina Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Board and World Vision International. For twenty-four hours ten young people and four adults ate no food and drank only fruit juices. Each participant raised money by getting persons to "sponsor" them with donations for the hungry of the world. "How can you help two billion hungry people? One at a time!" The group raised nearly $600 to provide food for some of the hungry people of the world!"

The group viewed two films "Let It Growl" and "The Hungry People" during the twenty-four hour planned famine. The Rev. Fred Baker, his wife, Linda and their children, Kim and Stevie, shared their experiences as foreign missionaries to the Philippines with the group. The group played various games and enjoyed good fellowship during the twenty-four hours.

Those participating and the amount raised by each was as follows: Amie Joyner, $36; Sherri Brown, $45; Leo and Alice Bass, $40; Katrina Barnes, $35; De and Carolyn Eakes, $25; Jan Newsom, $22.10; Jennifer Rowe, $15; Ronnie Best, $56; Kevin Eakes, $210; Ronnie Best, $59; Andy Thompson, $36.20; Brad Thompson, $13; Kim Flowers, $27. All who participated received a real blessing by sharing their abundance with those of the world who are less fortunate.

Heritage Mission Ordains Two Deacons

Heritage Mission of Charlotte ordained two deacons Sunday, February 20, 1983, Mr. Clayton Everett and Mr. Harold Smith. This is one of the steps toward full church status. Mr. Calvin Griffin, an ordained deacon, helped conduct the service.

Dr. Eugene Poston, director of the mission, led during the service. He delivered the message on the topic, "The People Had a Mind to Work," based on the Book of Nehemiah. He also gave the charge to the church.

Mr. Griffin and Miss Linda Everett provided special music. He also gave the charge to the new deacons and presented Certificates of Ordination to the newly ordained deacons. After the laying on of hands, the Rev. Jason Salyer, former director of the mission, led the prayer of ordination.

A fellowship lunch was enjoyed by 34 people after the service.

Heritage Mission has the challenge of reaching the largest city in North Carolina. The members request the prayers of all Original Free Will Baptists.

Revival Services At Bethany

The Rev. Marvin Waters, pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Bern, will be the evangelist at Bethany Church near Winterville, March 21-25. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. There will be a program of gospel music preceding the preaching of the Word each night. A very cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend.

The Rev. C. L. Patrick is pastor of Bethany Church.

Revival Services to Be Held At Sidney Church

Revival services will be conducted at Sidney Church, near Belhaven, the week of March 20-25. The Rev. Dean Kennedy, who is active in the promotion of the Home Missions Department, will be bringing the gospel messages each evening. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special music each night. The church and the pastor would like to extend an invitation to everyone to attend.

(Turn the Page)

Central Conference Woman's Auxiliary Convention to Meet

The Central Conference Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet March 26, 1983, at Little Creek Church, Ayden. The theme for the convention will be "Pressing Toward the Mark" with the Scripture taken from Philippians 3:14, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "Higher Ground"
—Devotion, Mrs. Janie Tripp
—Welcome, Mrs. Kay Stocks
—Response, Mrs. Rebecca Davenport
10:15—Greetings
—Recognition Time
—Appointment of Committees
10:30—Missions Report, Mrs. Wallie Hargrove
—Roll Call of Auxiliaries (Mission Money and Talents for Cragmont)
10:30—Children's Home Report, Mrs. Judy Moore
—Retirement Home
—Love Offering
—Hymn, "He Keeps Me Singing"
11:20—Special Music, Host Church
—Introduction of Speaker, Mrs. Evelyn Moore
11:30—Morning Message, Miss Rudene Kennedy
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15—Chorus Time, Mrs. Jackie Flowers
—Prayer
—Youth, Mrs. Joan Little and Mrs. Mitzi Hobgood
—Study Course
—Cragmont, Mrs. Minnie Mae Chandler
—Mount Olive College
—Anna Phillips Loan Fund, Mrs. Cleo Hinson
2:00—Life Membership Award, Mrs. Mitzi Hobgood
—Business Period
—Time of Renewal
2:30—Hymn, "When We All Get to Heaven"
—Adjournment

Revival Services at Union Chapel

Revival services will be held at Union Chapel Church, Highway 32, 6 miles south of Plymouth, March 28—April 1. The Rev. Lloyd Hargis of Clayton, will be the guest evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The pastor, the Rev. Swade Benson, and the congregation invite everyone to attend.

Senior Citizens Honored at British Chapel Church

Senior Citizens Sunday was observed at British Chapel Church, Route 6, Kinston, on February 13. Twenty-seven men and women aged 60 and over were served a Valentine Dinner prepared in their honor by the Young Adults' Sunday School Class.

Among those honored were the church pastor, the Rev. Robert M. Fader, and Mrs. Fader, who conducts Youth Church each Sunday for the children aged 6 to 13.

Special honorees included four ladies in their eighties: Mrs. Sallie S. Hill, 89; Mrs. Cora M. Sanderson, 88; Mrs. Geneva T. Brown, 84; and Mrs. Picolla B. Lewis, 80.

The class teacher, Earl W. Lovette, said the purpose of the dinner at this time was "to show our love and appreciation for our senior citizens who have given so much for the upbuilding of this church and our community."

One of the church members, Mrs. Ruth Daughety Hill, commented on the dinner: "I really appreciate this. I love this church; I love coming here. I've been coming here all my life, and I'm 77 years old."

The blessing used at the dinner was a chorus, which everyone sang to the tune of the Doxology, with a conclusion by Mr. Fader. The blessing was written by the Faders' daughter as a child and used in their home.

Be present at our table Lord;
Be here and everywhere adored.
These people bless and grant that we
May feast in paradise with Thee.
Amen

Senior Citizens Sunday was such a special event at British Chapel that everyone, old and young, is looking forward to a similar experience next year.

Youth Groups Meet at Lee's Chapel Church

The AFC and YFA groups of Lee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, near Dunn, met Monday, February 21, in the church sanctuary for a special joint service. Mrs. Gaile McLamb, YFA leader, invited the Rev. and Mrs. Bobby Cavenaugh and Terry Clemmons to entertain the youth groups and their parents with a most inspirational Christian program with the stars of a most unusual kind. The main characters were introduced by Mrs. Cavenaugh after reading Scripture from James 4:14. The host of this special show was named Agappe and he was a puppet! The children were delighted with his appearance.

"Growing up with Jesus" was the main theme of the program and along with Agappe's help, the point was made even clearer by the puppets called the Prince Family, that Christ provides peace and joy and that He should always be at the center of everyone's life.

The two puppets who really captured everyone's heart, whether young or old, were Ralph and Elmer! They were really some characters and they sang a song stressing that Jesus loves everyone, no matter what their appearance might be. They were so well liked by everyone that Agappe asked them to end the program.

After the puppet program was concluded, Mrs. McLamb asked Tommy Young to give the benediction. Refreshments were then enjoyed by approximately 60 people, consisting of AFC, YFA members, parents and leaders.

Special thanks go to these fine Christian people for coming to Lee's Chapel and sharing

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HELP REACH JOSE THROUGH GIVING

REMEMBER, Jose IS lost!

Unless we give generously, he will probably never be reached. "Christ alone can save the world, but Christ cannot save the world alone."

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES FOR GIVING

1. Our giving must focus on the redemption of people. Jose is a person. Millions like him need the gospel. Give to reach people who are the objects of God's grace (John 3:16).
2. The Great Commission applies to you. Purpose in your heart to give so others can hear (2 Corinthians 9:7).
3. Christian giving is the voluntary response to the great love Christ has for us (John 13:34).
4. Give willingly. God loveth a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:7).
5. Give regularly (1 Corinthians 16:2).

HOW MUCH SHALL I GIVE?

1. If I refuse to give anything to missions this year, I practically cast a ballot in favor of the recall of every missionary.
2. If I give less than heretofore, I favor reduction of the missionary forces proportionate to my reduced contribution.
3. If I give the same as formerly, I favor holding the ground already won; but I oppose any forward movement. My song is "Hold the Fort," forgetting that the Lord never intended His army to take refuge in a fort. All His soldiers are commanded to "Go!"
4. If I increase my offering beyond former years, then I favor an advance movement in the conquest of new territory for Christ.—(Quoted from *The Challenge of Missions* by Oswald J. Smith)

Not, how much of my money will I give to God, but how much of God's money will I keep for myself!

World evangelism is the first obligation of the church.

TELETHON SUNDAY IS MARCH 27.
CALL AND REPORT YOUR
MISSIONS OFFERING
BETWEEN 1:30 and 5:00 P.M.
PHONE: (919) 746-4963.

CHILDREN'S HOME'S MEDIA CENTER

Prior to 1974, the Free Will Baptist Children's Home had an Educational Director who was the liaison between the Children's Home and the public schools. This person evaluated and worked very closely with the school system for the benefit of the children in care.

In 1974, Mr. Sam Weeks saw the need to have an educational center on campus. The purpose of this program would be to tutor the children and bring them up to their appropriate grade level.

This center was established in the Albemarle Cottage after it was closed in 1974. Since that time, due to the economic conditions, the Education Center has been in three other buildings. It is time to get it established once and for all in a permanent location. Through the generosity of the Woman's Auxiliaries we have accumulated materials that will be most beneficial in the Education Center.

In May of 1982, preparations were made to move it back to the Albemarle Cottage. Renovations have been and are being made at a minimal cost. The children are now being tutored in the new Center, which is incomplete at this time.

Pictured are activities taking place during tutoring sessions. These facilities are being fully utilized at the present time. The Education Center has made a marked difference in our on-campus educational program.

E. Howard Cayton
Executive Director

RECREATION CENTER IS REOPENED

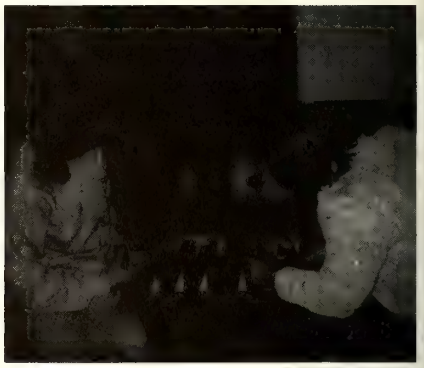
Angie Willis and Ann Worley help in cleaning the Recreation Center.

With the help of the children, the Recreation Center at the Children's Home reopened on January 14, 1983. Much was done at the Recreation Center in preparation for the reopening. The Children were very excited about the Recreation Center and fervently joined in helping with the painting and cleaning that the Center needed.

The Recreation Center has a variety of things for the children to do. There is ping pong, air hockey, dart games, footsball, and just recently, two

John Griffin and Dorothy Rhodes enjoy a game.

Atari games were donated. In addition to the games, there is an area where the children can watch their favorite television program.



Children enjoy a game of backgammon in Lounge Area.

Our children are very excited about their Recreation Center and always look forward to the scheduled times it is opened.

A TRIP TO THE CIRCUS

Children boarding the van.

On February 24, 1983, the children of the Home boarded the vans to go on a trip to the

"Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus" in Raleigh. The children were among some 2,000 children who received free tickets from WRAL 101 FM in Raleigh.

The children were very excited about their trip to the circus and enjoyed it very much. For some, the circus was a first-time experience and they were amazed at seeing the many different sights that the circus had to offer.

The children appreciated their circus trip. It was an experience that they will talk excitedly about for some time.

"Amateur Night" Performers.

AMATEUR NIGHT AT THE RECREATION CENTER

Friday night, February 18, 1983, was observed as "Amateur Night" at the Recreation Center on the Children's Home campus. It was a night of fun and laughter.

"Pillow Head" routine: First place—Dorothy Rhodes and Heidi Perkins.

The children put quite a bit of work in displaying to the audience their many talents, and this was evident in the performances of singing or doing skits. Mr. and Mrs. Renner, relief houseparents; Mrs. Owens, houseparent; and Cindy Rhodes served as judges for this fun-filled event. John Griffin and Ramona Hopkins were stage managers and Jeanie Brickhouse was the mistress of ceremonies.

"Amateur Night" prizes were awarded to the three entries whom the judges felt were the best acts. Third place and a reward of $2.50 went to Cindy Webb and Donna Briley. Their performance was a skit entitled "Mike and Ike." Second place and a reward of $5 went to Sherry and Angie Willis and Lois and Ann Worley. Their song performance was entitled "9 to 5." First place and a prize of $10 was awarded to Heidi Perkins and Dorothy Rhodes, who performed a "Pillow Head" Routine. Others who performed in "Amateur Night" were Shayne and Boo Williams, Ronnie and Kenneth Jones.

"9 to 5": Second place—Sherry and Angie Willis, Lois and Ann Worley.

Each performance was very enjoyable, and it is felt that all entries were winners. We are very proud of the children and the tremendous talent they displayed. "Amateur Night" was a big success and we hope to have another in the future.

NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES

The 1983 session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene on Thursday, May 12, at Cathedral Church, Durham, in the Piedmont District. Each auxiliary should represent with one delegate for each 25 members or fraction thereof, plus a registration fee of $10.

Many auxiliaries mail their registration fee in advance. This is a good thing to do, as it saves the delegate the trouble of handling the money. Also, in the event something happens at the last minute to prohibit your representing in person, your auxiliary is registered as having represented.

IMPORTANT: Please mail your fee before April 25, if possible, so that I will be able to get the list prepared and delivered to the convention registration committee for use on the morning of May 12. If you cannot possibly attend, please mail your fee anyway, as the convention needs your support. Mail your fee to the following address: Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, State Treasurer, 517 Westover Avenue, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

Endowment of the Week

THE HERMAN AND LILLIAN GRUBBS FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

First Row: Sandra (Sandy) Kasolka, Adrian Grubbs, Mrs. Lillian Grubbs, and Muriel Overman; second row: Harry Grubbs, Paul Grubbs, Frank Grubbs, Leon Grubbs, and Darrell Grubbs.

The Herman and Lillian Grubbs Endowment is a fund with quite a family history behind it. Created in August of 1978, the endowment was established by the Grubbs family to memorialize the late Herman Grubbs for his 39 years of service in the ministry.

"Mount Olive College has made a real difference in our lives and we wanted to help in some way," said Mrs. Grubbs.

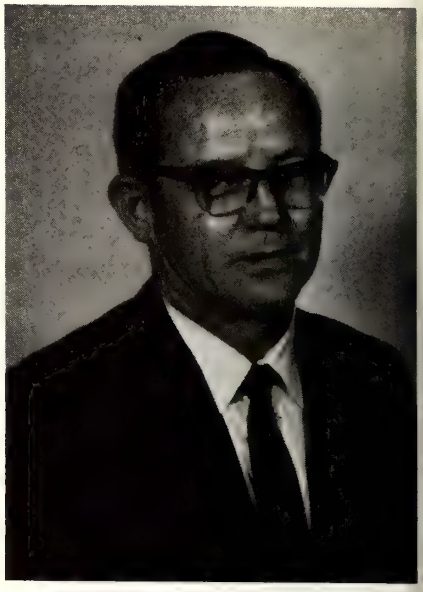
The Grubbs family moved to Mount Olive from Perry, Florida, in 1959, and the father enrolled in the College that fall. He was followed by all eight of his children who also attended the College. Mr. Grubbs died while Paul, the youngest son, was a freshman at Mount Olive College. The next year Mrs. Grubbs moved from Plymouth to Mount Olive and enrolled in the business department, and in 1975 she and Paul graduated together.

Herman Grubbs' decision to move to North Carolina and continue his education at Mount Olive had a profound influence on his family. Five of his six sons later became Free Will Baptist ministers. Adrian is pastor of Deep Run Church in Lenoir County, Paul is pastor of Friendship Church in Johnston County, Frank is pastor of Lanier's Chapel Church in Duplin County, Harry is pastor of the First Church of Greenville in Pitt County, and Leon is pastor of Hull Road Church in Greene County.

Darrell, the sixth son, is a teacher at Warsaw Junior High; daughter, Sandy Kasolka is a housewife in Victorville, California; and daughter Muriel Overman is a nurse at the Wayne County Health Department.

While in North Carolina, the Rev. Herman Grubbs pastored Long Ridge and Snow Hill Churches in Duplin County, Northeast and Indian Springs Churches in Wayne County, Gray Branch and Jackson Heights Churches in Lenoir County, Tee's Chapel in Johnston County and the First Church of Plymouth.

The Grubbs Family Endowment is made up of voluntary gifts which members of the Grubbs family make from time to time. In addition to $2,500 in gifts already received, the Fund has $15,000 in life insurance assigned to it. Income from the fund is used for the general purposes of the College as requested by the family.



Herman A. Grubbs
1922-74

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be the speaker for the morning worship service at Bethany Church in Pitt County on Sunday, March 20. The Rev. C. L. Patrick is pastor.

MOC PRESIDENT TO BE INTERVIEWED

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be interviewed on "Tar Heel Portrait" by Dr. Leo Jenkins on WITN-TV, Channel 7, Sunday, March 20. The program will begin at 1 p.m.

Dr. Raper will discuss Mount Olive's contribution to higher education in North Carolina and the College's transition to four-year status.

RUDENE KENNEDY TO TEACH COURSE

The Life and Letters of Paul will be taught at Verona Church by Miss Rudene Kennedy on Thursday nights, beginning April 5—May 24, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. The course will focus on the Apostle Paul's life and his message to the churches as expressed in his letters.

The cost for the course will be $20, and it may be taken for

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NEWS ABOUT GRIFTON MISSION

The Grifton Mission held its first services October 24, 1983. Since then it has progressed steadily and has had an attendance record of 37. This is a new work. It did not split from another church and has not grown at the expense of other churches. The Central Conference Home Missions Board is jointly sponsoring this work with the Convention Home Missions Board. The Rev. James Sowers, a dynamic young preacher, is the mission pastor.

HOME MISSIONS PASTORS' RETREAT HELD

On February 8, 9, 10, the Home Mission Pastors went to Leesburg, Florida, for a Home Mission pastors' retreat. When they were invited to attend, the pastors were informed that funds were not available to pay their expenses, but they decided to go and pay their own expenses. Eastwood Church, in Fayetteville, offered the use of their van and the Home Missions Board paid the gas expense for it. Some of the pastors elected to go in their own cars and pay all expenses.

This was a very good program which dealt with Home Mission work and the problems of the Home Mission pastor. Many of our men learned much about Home Missions through the seminars and workshops that week. Each felt better qualified because of it.

As director, I feel very proud of our dedicated pastors who were willing to travel so far in order to participate in a learning and showing session, but to be willing to pay their own way reflects the high quality of your Home Mission pastors. Free Will Baptists can be proud of these people.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SPEAK

The Home Missions Director, the Rev. Charles Crisp, will speak at the following locations:

Sunday, March 20—morning service, Holly Springs Church, Newport; evening service, Hull Road Church, Snow Hill

Wednesday, March 23—evening service, Gum Swamp Church, Greenville

Thursday, March 24—Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Bethlehem Church, Duplin County

Sunday, March 27—Friday, April 1—revival services, Tee's Chapel Church, Smithfield

COMING EVENTS

March—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

March 19—Eastern District Youth Convention, Christian Chapel Church, Pink Hill, 10 a.m.

March 24—Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Bethlehem Church, near Chinquapin, 10 a.m.

March 26—Central District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Little Creek Church, near Ayden, 10 a.m.

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

How many opportunities do you have to get together with other Christian educational workers for fellowship, continued training, and for sharing your visions for the educational ministry in the Free Will Baptist Church? Not very many! But one such opportunity is the upcoming session of the North Carolina State Sunday School Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. It will convene at Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, on March 26. The theme this year is, "The Committed Sunday School Teacher." Registration begins at 9 a.m. Workshops will be held for each age group in the Sunday school. Also, a workshop will be held especially for superintendents and pastors on educational administration. During the business session, we will be discussing and making decisions on some important matters in our educational program. Your support and input are desired and needed.

All of us know deep down that we could have a better educational program than we do. Most of us are aware that we have not given the Christian educational ministry the time and attention it deserves. My fellow Christians, we have the potential, the resources, and the people for an educational program that is second to none! For our sakes, for the sake of our children, for the future of our Church, and in obedience to our Lord's commission (Matthew 28:18-20), we must take our responsibility as nurturers more seriously and begin to realize more of the potential God has given us. Can we really afford to do otherwise? It will take teamwork and every ounce of commitment we possess. You can show your willingness to give both of these

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SUNDAY, MARCH 20

Scripture Reading—2 Kings 22-25

KEEP THE FIRE BURNING

Keep the altar of private prayer burning. This is the very life of all piety. The sanctuary and family altars borrow their fires here, therefore let this burn well. Secret devotion is the very essence, evidence, and barometer of vital and experimental religion.

Burn here the fat of your sacrifices. Let your closet-seasons be, if possible, regular, frequent, and undisturbed. Effectual prayer availeth much.

Let us examine ourselves on this important matter. Do we engage with lukewarmness in private devotion? Is the fire of devotion burning dimly in our hearts? Do the chariot wheels drag heavily? If so, let us be alarmed at this sign of decay.

Let us go with weeping, and ask for the Spirit of grace and of supplication.

MONDAY, MARCH 21

Scripture Reading—1 Chronicles 1-4

LARGE PETITIONS WITH THEE BRING!

Carol Ann Miller, a twelve-year-old girl in Oxon Hill, Maryland, had a heart ailment which required specialized, dangerous surgery. A rare type of blood—B-negative—was needed for transfusion before the surgeons would attempt the operation.

"I'll write to President Eisenhower, and ask him to help me get the needed blood," thought Carol Ann. So she wrote: "My Dear President: The surgeons want to close up a hole in my heart. If you know anyone who has B-negative blood, please call my mother. It is very important!"

The girl's plea deeply touched the president. Immediately he had the Red Cross contacted, and also the doctors in Walter Reed Hospital. Soon twenty pints of the required blood were made available to Carol Ann's surgeons.

How glad we are that the smallest and obscurest of God's children can come to "the throne of grace" and there "find . . . help in time of need!"

Whatever our need may be, God will supply it. The Saviour's promise is sure: "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:24).

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

Scripture Reading—1 Chronicles 5-7

HE CANNOT BE DISTURBED!

The superintendent of a large factory wanted to talk with the company's manager about an urgent business matter. He went to the manager's office. The secretary said, "The manager is in conference now, and cannot be disturbed." "But how can he be in conference when there is no one in the office with him?" asked the superintendent. "I must see him now on a matter of great importance." "You may come back in fifteen minutes if you wish," said the secretary, "or you may leave your message with me. At present, he is not to be disturbed." The irate superintendent pushed by the secretary and quickly opened the door to the manager's private office. After a quick glance within, he quickly and quietly closed the door. Said he apologetically to the secretary, "Why, he is on his knees! He is praying!" "Yes, he is *in conference,* as I told you," answered the secretary.

Prayer makes the darkened clouds withdraw;
Prayer climbs the ladder Jacob saw;
Gives exercise to faith and love;
Brings every blessing from above.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

Scripture Reading—1 Chronicles 8-11

OBITUARY

Died—in Laodicea, the *prayer meeting,* aged one year.

The health of this little meeting was poor; most of the year its life was despaired of. But a few anxious friends kept it alive, and sometimes it would so revive as to encourage them. Discouragement at last prevailed; now the prayer meeting is dead.

It died from neglect; not a Christian was present when it died; over forty were living within a mile of it, and not one of them was there.

Had two or three been there, its life might have been saved, for "where two or three are gathered together . . ." (Matthew 18:20).

Two-thirds of the forty *might* have been there had they been so disposed. But they were not, and so the prayer meeting died.

Restraining prayer, we cease to fight;
Prayer makes the Christian's armor bright;
And Satan trembles when he sees
The weakest saint upon his knees.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Scripture Reading—1 Chronicles 12-15

PRAYER MEETING LASTS FIFTY-THREE HOURS!

Five men were entrapped in a spar and zinc mine in Salem, Kentucky, by falling rocks. They had nothing to eat. They were in utter darkness. One of the men could have saved himself had he not run back to warn the others. When the entombed men discovered that they could not escape, they began to pray and sing. Their prayer and praise service lasted for fifty-three hours! Then they were rescued. Later one of the men testified, "We lay there from Friday morning till Sunday morning. We prayed 'without ceasing.' When the rescuers reached us, we were still praying!"

When the men were brought up out of the mine, on the caps of each one were scrawled these words: "If we are dead when you find us, we are all saved!"

Prayer can be a crying,
As in Gethsemane.
And He who heard his Son, the Christ,
Will He not hear me?

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

Scripture Reading—1 Chronicles 16-20

PRAYERS ANSWERED THE OTHER WAY!

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve,
I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey . . .
I asked for health, that I might do greater things,
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things . . .
I asked for riches, that I might be happy,
I was given poverty that I might be wise . . .
I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men,
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God . . .
I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life,
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things . . .
I got nothing that I asked for—but everything I had hoped for,
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.
I am among all men most richly blessed.

O fill me with Thy fullness, Lord,
Until my very heart o'erflow
In kindling thought and glowing word,
Thy love to tell, Thy praise to show.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

Scripture Reading—1 Chronicles 21-24

DID JESUS SPEAK SPANISH?

An evangelist sat beside an elderly woman in a railway coach. The woman spoke only Spanish. So also did the evangelist. She asked, "Don't you think that Adam and Eve spoke Spanish in the Garden of Eden?" He answered, "No, I don't think they did." Then she thought for a moment and asked, "Don't you think that Jesus spoke Spanish when He was here on earth? You know in all His pictures He is dark, like we are, and He has dark hair and dark eyes." "No, Jesus did not speak Spanish when He was here upon earth." Then quick as a flash she said, "Well, if He didn't talk it then He talks it now, because He talks to me. He answers my prayers and He understands me."

Thank God for a wonderful Saviour who makes Himself known to any, in his own tongue, who will listen.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

A NEEDFUL MINISTRY

(Continued from Page 4)

10. Provide educational programs to congregations (pre-retirement seminars, the aging family, income tax preparation, etc.)
11. Supply a tape ministry.
12. Employ a semi-retired pastor to work and minister to the older adults.
13. Provide special services in the homes of the shut-in.
14. Furnish transportation to special community programs and events.
15. Explore ways the older adult can use his or her talents and gifts for the enrichment and help of others (home repair, visitation, telephoning, etc.).

The retirement years can be fun, full of purposeful activity, a chance to help others, a place to find renewed faith and friends, and much more. Each congregation will determine its own goals and structures of growth and service to the elderly in its midst and help them provide opportunities to utilize their own gifts and talents to edify the Church as well as each other.

The older adult is in every community and every local church. The resources are available to help meet their needs and in turn, help them make a contribution. Why not get involved with them?

For March 20

AN EXPANDING FELLOWSHIP

Lesson Text: Acts 2:43-47; 6:1-7
Memory Verse: Acts 2:44

I. INTRODUCTION

A man once stopped by a minister's study to discuss with him the possibility of becoming a member of the congregation. As the discussion progressed, the man indicated his desire to unite with the church. Pleased, the minister asked, "Now that you have decided, in which area would you like to serve?"

"Oh, I'm not interested in anything like that," he replied, "I just want to join the church."

The minister patiently tried to explain that every member had some kind of work in the church. "Some teach a Sunday school class, some visit the sick, some sing in the choir, but we try to have a job for everyone."

"I didn't know it was this kind of a church," interrupted the man. "I believe I'll visit some other churches before I make a decision."

The minister smiled as he replied, "This is the Church of the Saviour. Perhaps the church you are looking for is the Church of the Heavenly Rest. It is down the street beside the cemetery."

Unfortunately, many today seek a church that has no jobs, no responsibilities. But such was not the church of the New Testament. It was an evangelistic church, a growing church. But it was also a church concerned about people, and that concern led it into all kinds of service for persons in need.

The church has a mandate to minister to both the spiritual and physical needs of man. Our Lord, who sent His disciples to all the world to preach the gospel, is the same Lord who commended the one who gave a cup of cold water or fed the hungry. To neglect either aspect is to neglect what Jesus commanded.

Because the church often has neglected the widows, the orphans, the sick, and the aging, governments have stepped in to provide for these people. As a result, we see few in our land who are starving or whose most pressing physical needs are not being met. Yet in our land there are needy ones whom we may never see. And beyond our land are countless millions who go to bed hungry every night.

Other than feeling a bit guilty and somewhat frustrated, what can we do about this situation? First of all, we can seek out and help the needy in our own communities and even in our own congregations. Further, we can recognize that welfare programs may provide some necessities, but they are often administered in an impersonal way that fills stomachs but leaves hearts empty. Christians, more than all others, should recognize that man does not live by bread alone. A visit to the sick or aging, a word of encouragement to the prisoner, a helping hand to the orphan can be more important than all the government handouts. What is your congregation doing to meet these needs?

Last week's lesson concerning the events on the Day of Pentecost closed with Peter's invitation for men to repent and be baptized. Three thousand persons responded to the invitation. The first portion of the printed text gives us some further glimpses of the Early Church and its activities. Between these verses and the second portion of the printed text, several exciting events took place. The crippled beggar at the Gate Beautiful was healed. Peter and John were brought before the Sanhedrin. Ananias and Sapphira tried to deceive the church and paid a terrible price for their deceit. The apostles were arrested, put in jail, released by an angel, and then once more were brought before the Sanhedrin and beaten.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. Even a casual reader of the Book of Acts will note that for the first half of the book, the center of activity was Jerusalem. But then things began to change. Jews from abroad and Gentiles began to come into the church.

B. There is no indication in the early days of the church that they had an organized visitation program or that they had special times to "go soul winning." Although there is nothing wrong with these practices, the Early Church experienced its great growth by what might be called life-style evangelism. They lived an "evangelistic life."

C. Another impression that one gets from studying the first few chapters of the Book of Acts is that great unity and fellowship existed within the church. They worked together; they prayed together; they visited one another; and they witnessed together. No wonder the church grew.

D. Because of the church's great growth, a problem came into focus. This problem had to do with the administration of the food supply to the widows. The manner in which the apostles and the church people solved this problem is a study in what can be done when people who love the Lord and one another really want to get along together.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

Now is the time to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 6)

their love for the Lord Jesus Christ using this puppet show. The Rev. Bobby Cavenaugh and Terry Clemmons are presently enrolled at Heritage Bible College. Mrs. Cavenaugh is a graduate of Heritage Bible College and went on to further her education at Columbia Bible Institute. Their love for Jesus was clearly shown with their performance of the puppets.

Revival Services at First Church of Warsaw

Revival services will be held at the First Church of Warsaw, March 20 through March 24. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Harold Swinson, pastor of Mt. Zion Church, will be the guest evangelist. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Alyne Elmore Circle Meets

The Alyne Elmore Circle met February 15, 1983, at 7 p.m., and traveled to the Golden Years Nursing Home in Falcon to celebrate the 91st birthday of Lee's Chapel Church's oldest member, Mrs. Ola Bass.

Pam Spell, co-chairman, welcomed each one there and then led in singing "Happy Birthday" to Mrs. Bass. Nancy Kollmar gave the devotion. The circle members served refreshments. After leaving the nursing home, the circle returned to the home of the Rev. and Mrs. Henry Armstrong. A gift of an engraved pewter bon-bon dish was given to them as a going-away gift from the circle.

The circle members returned to Lee's Chapel Church for their business meeting. Mrs. Alyne Elmore was recognized as having had a birthday on February 6, 1983. A glass cake plate was presented to her from the circle members. After a short business meeting, it was adjourned with sentence prayers. Those attending were Patsy Eason, Brenda Jackson, Pennie Lucas, Sherry Matthews, Libby Stewart, Judy Jackson, Phyllis Godwin, Pam Spell, Marguerite Lockamy, Sheila Jackson and daughter Michelle, Nancy Kollmar and daughter Melisha, Agnes Kirby, and Mrs. Alyne Elmore.

Mercer Speaks at Pine Level

Calvin R. Mercer Jr., professor of religion at Mount Olive College, spoke at Pine Level Church, Pine Level, March 6, at the morning and evening worship services.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

credit through the Paul Palmer Institute of Mount Olive College or for non-credit. Registration can be completed at the first class meeting.

SECRETARIAL OPENING AT COLLEGE

Mount Olive College is accepting applications for the position of Executive Secretary in the Office of Academic Affairs. Applicants must be proficient in secretarial skills, have a commitment to the Christian purposes of the College, and be available on April 4, 1983. The salary is based on qualifications and experience. Applications must be submitted in writing not later than March 23, 1983, to the Office of Academic Affairs, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365.

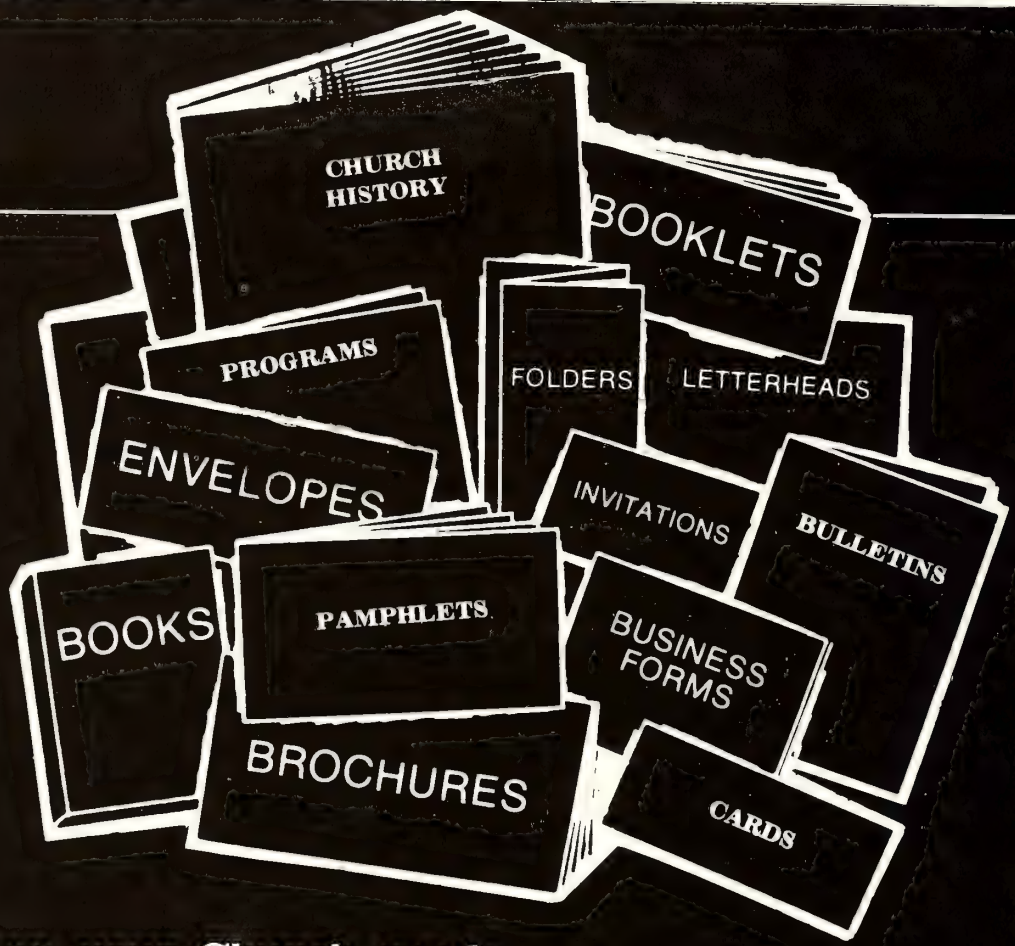
THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 11)

by your presence at the State Sunday School Convention. There's an old proverb which says, "Three things you cannot regain—a spent arrow—a spoken word—and a lost opportunity." This important meeting and our educational responsibilities in the present are opportunities we dare not lose, for we can never regain them.

(**NEXT WEEK:** A resource for your ministry with college students.)

March is Foreign Missions Month



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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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Editorial

It Is Finished!

There's a line that's been drawn through the ages; on that line stands the old rugged Cross.
On that Cross a battle is raging for the gain of man's soul or his loss.
On one side march the forces of evil, all the demons and devils of Hell.
On the other, the angels of glory; and they meet on Golgotha's hill.

The earth shakes with the force of the conflict; the sun refuses to shine;
For there hangs God's Son in the balance.
And then through the darkness He cries:
"It is finished, the battle is over. It is finished, there'll be no more war."
It is finished, the end of the conflict. It is finished and Jesus is Lord.

Yet, in my heart the battle was raging; not all prisoners of war had come home.
There were battlefields of my own making; didn't know that the war had been won.
Then I heard that the King of the Ages had fought all the battle for me
And victory was mine for the claiming, and now, "Praise His name," I am free.
"It is finished, the battle is over. It is finished, there'll be no more war."
It is finished, the end of the conflict. It is finished and Jesus is Lord.

—William J. Gaither

The very essence of the Easter story relates that righteousness triumphs. Evil may have its day, but goodness wins; satanic forces may score a few victories during the battle, but godly powers win the war. That's Easter!

It must have looked as though sin had the upper hand the day Christ was crucified, for as Jesus hung there, all righteousness, love, truth, and purity were impaled on that tree. How dejected the disciples must have been! Looking upon the battered, broken, bleeding body of the Master must have been devastating. The prevailing darkness could have only added to their hopelessness, for the sun should have been at its zenith. It certainly looked like the end of justice, mercy, truth, and purity. The people must have felt as though it was useless to go on—especially if Christ himself could not win the victory.

But He did.

The sun broke through three days later; it blazoned the fact that righteousness had triumphed; Christ was alive.

Even today, men get tired of well-doing. So often it looks as though odds are with the other side. All the battles seem to go against good; evil men prosper; injustice reigns, sin parading, gloating, bragging all the while. And we might as well face it, it's an uphill battle to stand for Christ in the world in which we live. We will probably take some awful beatings, but ours is the victory.

Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people (Proverbs 14:34). *Therefore . . . be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as you know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord* (1 Corinthians 15:58).

FIRST CHURCH, DURHAM, CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

This history has been consolidated and compiled from records that have been kept by numerous church members since the birth of First Church of Durham in 1922. Special recognition is due the family of Mrs. Dora Joyner, who was most helpful in supplying most of the information.

On November 19, 1982, First Church of Durham celebrated her 60th anniversary. She was born on November 19, 1922, as the result of a very successful tent meeting conducted by the late R. V. (Bob) Self. The first pastor of the church was the Rev. W. E. Anderson. During his pastorate a temporary building was erected for worship and was called Edgemont Free Will Baptist Church.

The Rev. E. C. Morris followed with a five-and-one-half-year ministry during which time a more permanent house of worship was erected and a considerable sum paid on the property, together with a substantial increase in the membership. (Mr. Morris' widow is still a very active member of our church today.)

The Rev. A. Lamond followed with a ministry of about 16 months. For the next 8 months the church was without a stated pastor and was supplied largely through the ministry of the Revs. W. K. Jordan, G. C. Joyner and W. E. Anderson.

On October 1, 1931, the Rev. Henry Melvin accepted the pastorate and served until March 1, 1942, at which time another building was constructed. This building was dedicated free of debt on October 6, 1946.

The Rev. Chester H. Pelt assumed the pastorate in March 1942 and served until September 1943, leaving the pastorate to enter the United States Army as a Chaplain. On December 1, 1943, Mr. Melvin returned for a second pastorate.

In the interval of Mr. Melvin's return the pulpit was supplied by the Rev. Bob Wooley. The Rev. Paul Ketterman pastored from 1947 to 1949, followed by the Rev. Floyd Cherry from 1949 to 1951; then the Rev. Joseph Ange pastored from 1951 to 1957. The Rev. Ronald Creech pastored from 1957 to 1960 and was followed by the Rev. Albert Coates from 1960 to 1962. The Rev. Raymond Jones pastored from 1962 to 1967; Paul Warner pastored from 1968 to 1970. In October 1968, by a vote of the church, the name was changed from Edgemont to First.

The Rev. O. B. Jones pastored from 1970 to 1974. In September 1974 the church was approached by another denomination about the possibility of buying the church building. The church voted to take the offer that was granted. The way was opened and the present location was purchased at a very reasonable price. Construction began immediately on the present church building. On Sunday morning December 1, 1974, the final services were held at the old location and the church went into a temporary facility on East Club Boulevard until our new building was completed.

The Rev. M. E. Cox pastored from 1974 to 1977. On March 16, 1975, the first services were held in our present building on Chandler Road. Dedication services were held on April 13, 1975.

The Rev. Jeff Scarborough pastored from 1977 to 1979, followed by the Rev. Fred Johnson from 1979 to the present.

Our church today is still growing. We thank the Lord for the blessings that He has poured out upon us. We have set and accomplished many goals during the past several years.

The Ladies' Auxiliary still continues to play a big part in the ministry of the church. They have laboured fruitfully in offerings to the Children's Home, supporting Foreign and Home Missions. These ladies look after the sick, making sure they have cards and flowers. They prepare meals for bereaved families, and always keep a well-stocked pantry for the needy. These ladies have had the carpet dyed in the front of the church and have purchased a curtain for the baptistry. They always make sure

(Turn the Page)

that we have flowers in the church on special occasions. There is just not enough we can say about these dear ladies who seem to take care of everything. The above mentioned are just a few of the activities of these ladies.

The Layman's League is also always busy at some task for the advantage of the church. They have purchased a gasoline weed eater so our yard and lawn will look pretty. They have built a shelter over the loading area. They even surprised the ladies with a Mother's Day breakfast.

Our YFA group, under the leadership of Mrs. Jean Walker, also plays a very active role in our church today. They take great pride in doing things to show their love for the members of their church. A "Golden Agers" picnic was held at a local park for the Senior Citizens. Every year they are responsible for our Halloween Carnival which is enjoyed by all. These activities are completely sponsored by the YFA.

We also pay special tribute to the many Christians who have labored so fruitfully and who have gone on to be with Jesus.

The blessings of the Lord have been upon the work of the church since her beginning. There have been many sons and daughters of the church who have gone into full-time Christian service and to the missionary fields through her ministry. Hundreds have come to know Jesus Christ at her altar, the bereaved have found comfort and the discouraged have found new hope.

Edgemont Church, now First Church of Durham, was born in an old-time Holy Ghost revival. May those fires of the past never die upon her altar. May we always operate on our motto: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

News & Notes

FESTIVAL OF GOSPEL MUSIC TO BE HELD

The Hopper Brothers and Connie

The North Carolina Free Will Baptist Layman's League Convention cordially invites everyone to attend a Festival of Gospel Music, on Saturday, April 30, 1983, at Eagles Nest, Mount Olive, North Carolina. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be catered by Wilber's of Goldsboro at $3.75 per plate. Program participants include: The Collie Singers, Nashville; The Hopper Brothers and Connie, Madison; The Watchmen, Goldsboro; The Hall Sisters; The Down East Boys, Potter's Hill; The New Creations, Mount Olive College; The New Life Singers, Wilson; The Sentinels, Durham.

Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention to Meet

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held at Bethlehem Church, Chinquapin, March 24, 1983. The theme of the convention will be "More Souls Set Free in 1983." The Scripture will be taken from John 8:36: "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." The program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, 280, "Bring Them In"
—Welcome, Marie Jones
—Response, Lucille Holland
—Special Music, Carol Prescott
—Devotions, Addie Starnes
—President's Remarks, Rena Kirk
—Business Session
—Offering and Prayer
11:00—Hymn, 353, "Ring the Bells of Heaven"
—Reports:
—Free Will Baptist Press, the Rev. Jack Mayo
—Superannuation, the Rev. Graham Lane
—Youth, Deborah King
—Cragmont, Velma Morris
—Eastern Conference Missions and Retirement Homes, the Rev. Walter Sutton
—Mount Olive College, Dola Dudley
—Camp Vandemere, Nina Grace Register
—Foreign Missions, the Rev. Harold Jones
—Children's Home, the Rev. J. Billy Hardee

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Chorus Time and Prayer, Deborah King
—Message and Home Missions Report, the Rev. Charles Crisp
—Reports:
—Miscellaneous
—Treasurer, Velma Morris
—Installation of Officers, Alice Barrow
—Dedication and Benediction

Pianist, Nina Grace Register
Song Director, Linda Futch
Ushers, Vera Fountain and Zelma Martin
Chorus Theme, "Lord lead me to some soul today, and love that soul through me, and may I humbly do my part to win that soul for thee."

Special Service Planned For Easter Morning

A note-burning ceremony will be held during the 11 a.m. worship service Easter Sunday, April 3, at Piney Grove Church, Highway 264, Greenville. This service marks a milestone in the church's endeavors, as the facility constructed in 1974 is now paid for. The Rev. Allan Sterbin is pastor of Piney Grove Church.

Everyone is invited to attend this service.

Revival Services Scheduled At Macedonia Church

A series of revival services is scheduled March 28—April 1, at Macedonia Church, Ernul, North Carolina. The Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor of Marlboro Church, Farmville, will be the guest evangelist. Services will begin nightly at 7:30.

The Rev. Walter Sutton, pastor, and the members of Macedonia Church cordially invite everyone to join them in these services.

Bible Study Planned At Oriental Church

Oriental Church will be having a special Bible study series March 26 and 27, with Rudene Kennedy teaching the series. The Saturday night service will begin at 7. Miss Kennedy will be speaking for both the 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. services on Sunday.

The Rev. Ralph Sumner, pastor, invites everyone to attend these services.

Gospel Sing at Union Chapel Church

The New Life Singers of Wilson, North Carolina, will be singing at Union Chapel Church, Highway 32, near Plymouth, North Carolina, Saturday, April 9, at 7:30 p.m.

Revival Services at Tee's Chapel Church

Tee's Chapel Church of Route 2, Smithfield, will be having revival services, March 27-31. The Sunday evening, March 27 service, will begin at 7 p.m. All other services will begin at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Charles Crisp, director of the Home Missions program for Original Free Will Baptists, will be the guest evangelist. The pastor of the church is the Rev. T. C. Farmer. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

On Saturday, April 9, Tee's Chapel Church will be sponsoring a Bar-B-Que Pork and Chicken sale from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. and 4 until 8 p.m. Anyone can eat in or take out. Proceeds will go to the building fund.

Revival to Be Held at Smith's New Home Church

The Smith's New Home Church will be engaged in revival services March 28—April 1. The Rev. Don Fader will be the visiting evangelist. The Rev. A. B. Bryan, pastor of the church, will be assisting in the services. Special music will be rendered by the local church and visiting musicians throughout the revival. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. The church is located on Route 1, Deep Run, eleven miles south of Kinston on Highway 258. The public is invited to attend.

Special Services Scheduled At Piney Grove Church

The Rev. N. Bruce Barrow and the entire congregation of Piney Grove Church near Albertson invite everyone to attend the following special services. On April 3, Easter Sunrise Services will be held at 6 a.m., with breakfast following. Revival services will be held April 4-8 with the Rev. Bobby Futrell as the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Homecoming services will be held on April 24. The time of the services is 9:45 a.m.

Elm Grove Church Has Pastor Appreciation Day

March 6 was a big day for the Rev. Steve Hargrove and his family. They have been at Elm Grove Church in Ayden for one year. During the morning worship service, the church recognized the pastor and his wife and children, telling some of the things that had taken place in the year they have been there. Then the whole church was invited to stay for a surprise dinner in the fellowship building. The Hargroves were given gifts and everyone enjoyed the day. Approximately 90 people attended.

Revival Services Announced For Pleasant Grove Church

The Rev. Carl Lyons family

Revival services will be held at Pleasant Grove Church, Route 3, Dunn, the week of March 28. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Carl Lyons will be the guest evangelist. He is from East Rockingham Church. There will be special singing each evening. The congregation and the pastor, the Rev. Ted Bryant, invite everyone to attend these services.

General Baptist Ministers' Conference Is Planned

A large number of General Baptist pastors will gather at Cragmont Assembly, May 17-19, for their annual Ministers' Conference. The daily schedule is 8 a.m., breakfast; 9-9:10 a.m., devotions; 9:10-10 a.m., communications skills by Ernie Rogers; 10-10:30 a.m., break; 10:30-12 a.m., expository preaching from Hebrews by Dr. Dale Moody. The afternoon is free for fellowship and

(Continued on Page 15)

IS THERE A GOD WHO LOVES ME? I'M SO AFRAID!

The gods Jose worships bring fear to his young heart. When will he hear about the true, loving and living God?

Why should anyone hear the gospel twice before everyone has heard it once? —(Oswald J. Smith)

WHO WILL GO?

Suppose you lived in the same village where Jose lives. You too would be lost with no hope for eternity. You would have seen those who died in your family go into eternity lost forever. This is what has happened in Jose's family. Your prospects of being saved were no better than theirs, because the ones willing to go are so few.

As you think about this, can you see, will you see the plight of millions already dead without Christ and millions now living who will meet the same fate unless someone takes the good news to them?

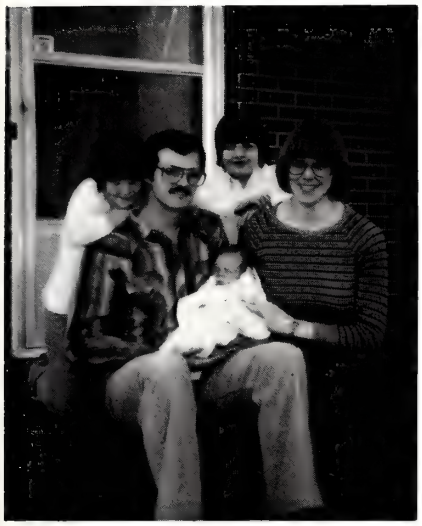
God calls enough people to reach all the world with the gospel; the problem is that people do not listen and obey that call. *Has He spoken to you?*

O Church of Christ, what wilt thou say
when in the awful Judgment Day
They charge thee with their doom?

"God had an only Son and He made Him a missionary."

TELETHON SUNDAY IS MARCH 27.
CALL AND REPORT YOUR
MISSIONS OFFERING
BETWEEN 1:30 and 5:00 P.M.
PHONE: (919) 746-4963.

SHARING OUR SPECIAL BABY



The Rev. Paul Grubbs family

The Rev. and Mrs. Paul Grubbs recently became parents of their own baby boy, Nathan Paul Grubbs. Paul and Teresa are already foster parents licensed under the supervision of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc. They presently have two foster children, Kim and Lisa Baker, who have been a part of their family for two years. Not only have the new parents been excited about the baby, but so have the girls! Kim and Lisa have been made to feel a part of this family and look forward to helping Paul and Teresa with "baby brother."

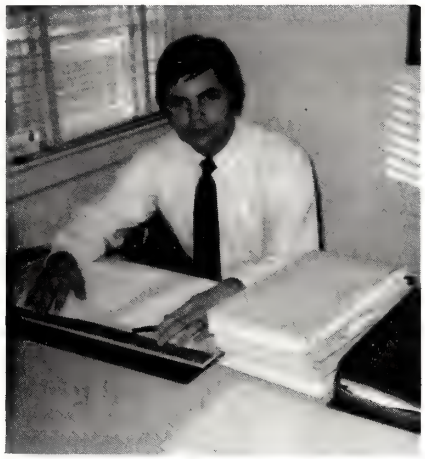
We congratulate Paul and Teresa on their new admission to the family and also thank them for their love and strong commitment to the child care profession.

Susan Dalton
Social Worker

NEW PSYCHOLOGIST

We take this opportunity to welcome Dr. Gary H. Bachara to the Children's Home and to share his arrival with you.

Dr. Bachara received a Batchelor of Arts degree from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. He received a Master of Arts degree from Radford College, Virginia, in



Gary H. Bachara

clinical psychology. He received his Doctor of Philosophy from the Institute of Child Study at the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland, in child psychology.

Dr. Bachara is a licensed psychologist in the State of North Carolina, and is also a licensed counselor in the State of Virginia. He is a member of the American Psychological Association, the Virginia Psychological Association, the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis, the American Psychological Association of Pediatric Psychology, and the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists.

Dr. Bachara and his family moved to the Wilson area five years ago.

He presently serves as a psychologist on the Wilson Cardiac Rehabilitation Program. He is on the staff at the Wilson Memorial Hospital and is involved in various groups such as the Wilson County Mental Health Association, where he is a board member. Dr. Bachara is also a member of the board of Wilson Cardiology and Heart Association. He serves as psychologist at Carolina Clinic in Wilson, North Carolina.

Dr. Bachara has been involved in research and writing. He has written many articles for publication in areas of Child Psychology.

After our being without psychological services for nearly two months, it is good to have an individual with Dr. Bachara's qualifications on staff, providing the needed psychological services. Dr. Bachara is on campus each Wednesday afternoon to work with children, parents, foster families, and staff.

We have been working over the past several months to strengthen our Family Services department. Having Dr. Bachara on staff helps us to continue to build this foundation. Through Family Services we seek to render the best quality child care.

Dr. Bachara, once again, we say welcome.

Bobby R. Taylor
Director of Child Care

NOTE OF THANKS

From my family and myself —our deepest appreciation to all for your loving concern. The cards, flowers, prayers, and financial help during our illness have helped to make the road to recovery a lot brighter and smoother. May our Lord richly bless each of you for your efforts. My family and I will never forget you. Please continue your prayers for us as we continue in His service.

The Rev. Bobby Brown and family

CHURCHES PARTICIPATING IN THE WIDOW'S FUND

Please note that a minister has died since our last announcement: The Rev. L. L. Therrell. Gifts of $50 are now due from those participating in the program. Please respond accordingly.

Churches will be notified through *The Free Will Baptist* when a minister dies.

Walter Reynolds

Now is the time to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

Mount Olive College

Endowment of the Week

ELSIE BRAME AND JAMES BAXTER HUNT ENDOWMENT

The Hunts (left to right): James B. Hunt Sr., Chairman, Mount Olive College Board of Trustees; Mrs. Hunt; and their son, Governor James B. Hunt Jr. (1977 photo at Mount Olive College)

The Hunt Endowment was established November 22, 1977, at the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the Free Will Baptist Church. Initial gifts totaling $3,500 from Free Will Baptist churches and friends of the Hunt family were presented at an anniversary service in Rodgers Chapel at Mount Olive College.

Subsequent gifts have increased the fund to more than $5,000. In addition, life insurance policies by Mr. Hunt and his son, Governor James B. Hunt Jr., along with other assignments assure that in years to come the Hunt Fund will be a meaningful part of the College endowment. Income from the endowment is used to advance the general purposes of the College.

Mr. and Mrs. Hunt are members of Marsh Swamp Church, Wilson County. Mr. Hunt was elected to the College Board of Trustees in 1964 and has served as chairman since 1974.

Mrs. Hunt, the former Elsie Brame, is a retired public school teacher and she served on the Campus Beautification Committee for the new campus of the College. Mr. Hunt, a farmer, is retired from the North Carolina Soil Conservation Service. He was also a long-time Sunday school superintendent of Marsh Swamp Church and is a leading Free Will Baptist layman in civic, community and church affairs.

The Hunts have two children, Governor James B. Hunt Jr., and Robert Hunt of Clayton, a psychiatric social worker.

Endowment Information

The Mount Olive College endowment program totals approximately $1.2 million and is composed of more than one hundred funds, with assets ranging from $1,000 to $250,000. The principal of these funds is a permanent trust which is invested for income. The earnings are used according to purposes designated by the donors, and include such areas as scholarships, student loan funds, library, athletics, music department and the general purposes of the College.

Individuals or families who would like to establish living tributes or lasting memorials are invited to contact President W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; telephone (919) 658-2502.

"I shall pass through this world but once . . .

"If therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do, let me do it now . . . for I shall not pass this way again" (Etienne de Grellet).

MOC SPONSORS SEMINAR ON CHARITABLE GIVING THROUGH LIFE INSURANCE

Monday, March 28, 1983
10 a.m.—1 p.m.
Moye Library (Sawyer Room)

The Mount Olive College program of "Charitable Giving Through Life Insurance" has received national recognition. Since our program was featured at the 1979 Million Dollar Round Table in Chicago, we have been approached by many agents regarding how they could participate in our program or use life insurance for the benefit of other charities. The purpose of this seminar is to respond to these inquiries.

With the significant changes that have taken place within the life insurance industry during the past few years, we have decided to re-evaluate, redirect and give renewed emphasis to this phase of our development program. Even with a modest effort, the College is already the owner and beneficiary of approximately $2 million in life insurance. We believe that this

means of giving can be used to help provide the long-range financial strength and stability we want for our College.

We anticipate adding to our development staff a person whose duties will include specific responsibility for advancing our program of Charitable Giving Through Life Insurance. We will not have a closed agreement with either a company or a representative, but instead we look forward to working with those agents who are interested in marketing insurance products appropriate to our purposes. At the seminar, we will discuss guidelines for these policies and the administration of our program.

The seminar will also have value for those who wish to use insurance as a charitable vehicle for other tax-exempt institutions. The program will be presented by Mark Cherry, CLU, and President W. Burkette Raper.

The cost of the seminar, including lunch, will be $25, payable to Mount Olive College, by March 26. The seminar is open to any licensed insurance agency.

For additional information, contact: W. Burkette Raper, President, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365, telephone: (919) 658-2502.

NEW CREATIONS' SCHEDULE

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will be at Rose Hill Church near Winterville at 11 a.m. and at Rose of Sharon Church near Robersonville at 6 p.m. on Sunday, March 27.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 5)

Western District Auxiliary Convention to Meet

The Western District Auxiliary Convention will be held at Micro Church, Micro, on April 16. The theme will be "Stand Up, Be Counted." The Scripture will be taken from Matthew 5:14-16. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:15—Registration
9:45—Hymn, "The Light of the World Is Jesus"
—Devotion, Host Church
—Welcome, Host Church
—President's Remarks, Rosalene Bass, Mount Zion, Nash County
10:15—Hymn, "Tell Me the Story of Jesus"
—Stand Up, Be Counted Through Benevolence, Esther Barnes, Little Rock
—Stand Up, Be Counted Through Missions, Florence Taylor, Calvary
—Stand Up, Be Counted Through Our Youth, Suzanne Coates, Pine Level
—Special Music, Micro Church Trio
11:00—Hymn, "Stand Up for Jesus"
—Offering and Prayer
—Special Music, Janice Price, Northern
—Convention Message, Jessie Pearl Woodard, Kenly
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn, "I Love to Tell the Story"
—Devotion, Carolyn Eakes, Little Rock
—Business Session
—Installation of New Officers, Hilda Sasser, First Church, Wilson
—Hymn, "I Surrender All"
—Benediction

Revival Services at Daly's Chapel Church

Revival services will be held at Daly's Chapel, Route 1, Seven Springs, North Carolina, March 30—April 1. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. The Rev. Foy Futrelle, pastor of Warsaw Church, will be the guest evangelist. The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

Revival Services to Be Held At Wintergreen Church

Revival services will be held at Wintergreen Church, Route 1, Cove City, North Carolina, on April 4—April 8. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. Billy Hardee of Elizabethtown will be the guest evangelist. The church membership and its pastor, the Rev. Mike Scott, invite everyone to come and worship.

(Continued on Page 15)

FREE WILL BAPTISTS RESPOND TO MEMBERSHIP DRIVE
November 82 Through February 83

	Memberships Purchased
Palmer Memorial Church, Garner, NC	1
Palmer Memorial Sunday School, Garner, NC	1
Palmer Memorial Ladies Auxiliary, Garner, NC	1
Pee Dee Union Number 1, Bladenboro, NC	1
Friendship Church, Middlesex, NC	1
Deep Run Church, Deep Run, NC	1
Deep Run Sunday School, Deep Run, NC	1
First Church, Kinston, NC	1
J. C. Griffin Brotherhood, Mount Olive, NC	1
White Oak Grove Church, LaGrange, NC	1
Gum Swamp Church, Belvoir, NC	1
Winterville Church, Winterville, NC	10
Tee's Chapel Church, Smithfield, NC	1
Beaverdam Church, Whiteville, NC	1
Second Union Sunday School Convention, Ayden, NC	1
Aspen Grove Church, Fountain, NC	1
Mt. Calvary Church, Clarkton, NC	1
Total	26

Others have responded this month and their names will appear later. Thanks to those who are responding. This revenue is helping us to gain needed capital and it helps relieve us of the burden of past-due debts. We ask others to respond by purchasing memberships with us at the cost of $100 each. Certificates will be mailed to you as soon as they are approved by our Board of Directors.

Thanks again for this good support!

W. J. Mayo
Financial Director

NEW RESIDENTS

Pictured above are J. B. and Erma Patterson, who are the newest admissions to our Retirement Homes ministry at Middlesex. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson were admitted as of January 1, 1983.

Originally from Gold Rock (Nash County), Mr. and Mrs. Patterson began work at the Children's Home in 1970. Mr. Patterson served as Farm Manager until his retirement in 1981, while Mrs. Patterson served 10 years as Food Manager, 2 years as relief houseparent, and various other positions until her semi-retirement in 1982. Currently she works only a few hours each week due to health problems.

The Retirement Homes are proud to be able to provide a service for these two faithful Free Will Baptists who have served our denomination so faithfully these many years.

STOCKS LEAVE

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Stocks were residents of the Retirement Homes for almost two years. They were admitted in May of 1981. Neither are with us any longer.

Mrs. Stocks (Corney) went home to be with our Lord on Thursday, February 24. Surviving her are her husband, Herman H. Stocks; sons, J. B. Stocks and Alton P. Stocks, both of Greenville, Joe Rogers of Ayden; daughter, Mrs. Maggie Lee Stokes of Edenton; brother, Dan Mayo of Washington, North Carolina; sisters, Mrs. Henrietta Mills of Chocowinity, Mrs. Annabell Heath of Grimesland, Mrs. Maybelle Hall of Greenville, Mrs. Lizzie Colville of Pactolus; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

Mr. Stocks decided to move to Ayden, North Carolina, to be nearer his family. He was discharged from the Retirement Homes March 3, 1983.

We were happy to be able to serve these wonderful people.

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
February, 1983
Total $1,269.47

ALBEMARLE	
District Convention	$ 70.00
Mount Tabor	50.00
Total	$120.00
CAPE FEAR	
Catalpa Mission	$ 20.00
Hopewell	20.00
Johnston Union	20.00
Lee's Chapel	46.62
Tee's Chapel	20.00
Total	$126.62
CENTRAL	
Rose of Sharon	$ 50.00
Union Number 2	17.19
Total	$ 67.19
EASTERN	
Auxiliary Convention	$200.00
Faith	2.40
St. Mary's	20.00
Spring Hope	10.00
Union Number 5	20.00
Total	$252.40
PEE DEE	
District Convention	$ 80.00
Total	$ 80.00
WESTERN	
Holly Springs	$ 20.00
Memorial Chapel	20.00
Pine Level	20.00
Pleasant Hill	35.00
Rosebud	106.80
St. Mary's	100.00
Sherron Acres	25.00
Wilson, First	150.00
Total	$476.80
STATEWIDE	$146.46
Total	$146.46

Cragmont

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
RECEIPTS

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE	
Union Chapel	$ 29.73
Total	$ 29.73
CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE	
Lee's Chapel Sunday School	$ 31.08
Palmer Memorial	114.28
Total	$145.36
CENTRAL CONFERENCE	
Edgewood	$ 30.00
Fidelis Memorial Sunday School Class	30.00
Fourth Union District Central Conference	14.94
Friendship	25.00
Greenville, First	300.00
Greenville Christian Service Woman's Auxiliary	10.00
Piney Grove (Washington)	89.00
Piney Grove (Greenville)	100.00
Rose Hill	50.00
Second Union	17.19
Third Union District	80.00
Williamston, First	26.93
Total	$ 773.06
EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Core Creek	$ 150.00
Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary	200.00
Fifth Union Eastern Conference	15.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	10.00
New Haven	100.00
Pilgrims Rest	5.00
Sound View	100.00
Total	$ 580.00
WESTERN CONFERENCE	
Unity	$ 15.00
First Union of Western Conference	85.00
Rains Cross Roads	100.00
Sherron Acres	175.00
St. Mary's	329.90
Union Grove	175.00
Wilson, First	375.00
Milbournie	37.50
Mount Zion	125.00
Total	$1,417.40
OTHERS	
North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention	$1,940.68
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Taylor Jr.	45.00
Mrs. Jean Moore	100.00
College and Career Class	20.00
Total	$2,105.68
Miscellaneous	$ 3.00
Conference and Retreat	250.00
Memorial	10.00
Cragmont Club	1,547.50
Total	$1,810.50
Total All Deposits	$6,861.73

(Continued on Page 15)

For March 27

GOOD NEWS FOR OUTSIDERS

Lesson Text: Acts 8:25-38
Memory Verse: Acts 8:35

Jesus, just before He returned to Heaven, informed His disciples that they were to be His witnesses beginning in Jerusalem, then reaching to Judea, to Samaria, and finally to the uttermost parts of the earth. Just as a stone cast into the middle of a millpond sends ripples to the most remote bank, so the marching orders of Jesus were beginning to have a similar rippling effect. In earlier chapters we saw the gospel proclaimed in Jerusalem and the surrounding area. In today's lesson we have seen the ripples reach Samaria and, with the conversion of the eunuch, begin to extend out toward the "uttermost."

As the gospel moved out from Jerusalem, those who carried it began to encounter new and different problems—problems that could become barriers to the spread of its saving message. It is rather surprising that Philip encountered so few problems when he began to preach in Samaria. We are quite familiar with the bitterness that had developed between the Jews and the Samaritans, antagonisms that went back centuries. Whether or not Philip shared these prejudices, we do not know; but if he did, he easily laid them aside under the burning compulsion to preach the gospel. It is surprising also that the Samaritans did not reject the message because it came from a Jew. Apparently, Philip presented the message in such a winsome way and with such sincerity that the barriers were swept aside.

The case of the Ethiopian eunuch raises the possibility of another barrier. Scholars debate whether he was a Jew racially or a member of the black race who had been converted to Judaism. While it may be true that the ancient world was not as color-conscious as our society, yet the barriers were there. If this eunuch was of another race, Philip did not allow this barrier to keep him from carrying out Christ's commands.

Just as barriers to the spread of the gospel existed in the first century, so they exist today. Differences of race, language, or socioeconomic class prevent us from carrying the good news to others about us. These same differences often divide Christian brothers. There are no easy answers to these problems, only painful ones. Yet, if we are serious about restoring the church of the New Testament, not only in its doctrines and ordinances, but also in its fruit, we need to make a concerted effort to break down these walls. When we do, we will find that like the eunuch, countless thousands, indeed, millions, will go on their way rejoicing. And we too can share that joy.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

For April 3

CONFRONTED BY THE RISEN LORD

Lesson Text: Acts 9:1-16
Memory Verse: Acts 26:15

In last week's lesson we studied some of the activities of Philip, who had been forced to leave Jerusalem by the persecutions that Saul had a major hand in directing. We don't know how long these persecutions lasted. They may have continued for several weeks or even several months. The suffering Saul brought upon Christians seemed only to intensify his antagonism toward them. Perhaps word of the evangelistic efforts of the Christians who had been scattered abroad drifted back to Jerusalem and this also served to stir him up.

The Lord confronted Saul positively, unmistakably, and in a series of convincing steps. First there came a light from Heaven, reminiscent of the glory that had revealed the divine presence to Moses and Isaiah. Then came the voice of direct personal challenge to Saul. That voice was unmistakably identified with the light and the divine presence. Finally the very words of Christ linked the presence and the responsibility with the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

The procedure is strikingly similar to that which Jesus used in His earthly ministry. First came the light of His personality, divine wisdom, and miracles. Then He challenged His hearers with their responsibility in relationship to the truth; and finally—usually in response to a question from His hearers—He identified Himself as the one who had a right to make demands and challenges.

We are confronted by Christ in somewhat the same fashion, if not by His visible presence. The Gospels tell of His matchless power, purity, and love, so that we come to admire Him as the greatest of men. But admiration is not enough; we must commit our lives and ways to Him. What right has He to ask that? The answer is that He is more than a man; He is the Son of God, divine Saviour, and eternal judge. There is no escaping His presence, except in the choice that would make us outcasts eternally.

I do believe, that die I must,
And he return'd from out my dust:
I do believe, that when I rise,
Christ I shall see, with these same eyes.

—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

Scripture Reading—1 Chronicles 25-28

DOES GOD KNOW CHINESE?

Before the days when China was under Communist rule, a little Chinese boy lived at a school where missionaries were teaching. They were all praying one night when the little boy said to the missionary, "Do you think God understands Chinese?"

"Oh, yes," replied the missionary. "Why do you ask?"

"Because," said the little boy, "sometimes when I feel bad I like to pray to God in Chinese, and I wondered if He understands, just the same as English."

"Of course," said the missionary. "God knows every language. He can hear what we *think*. He doesn't really hear the words we say. He listens to the feeling down deep in our hearts that makes us want to speak to Him. He says in the Bible: 'Before they pray, I will answer, and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.' So speak in any language, and God will hear."

Much kneeling keeps us in good standing with God. We cannot stumble when we are on our knees. A Christian on his knees sees more than the philosopher on tiptoes.

MONDAY, MARCH 28

Scripture Reading—1 Chronicles 29; 2 Chronicles 1-3

A PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Grant me, O Lord, the strength today
For every task which comes my way.
Cover my eyes and make me blind
To petty faults I should not find.
Open my eyes and let me see
The friend my neighbor tries to be.
Teach me when duty seems severe
To see Thy purpose shining clear.
Let me at noontime rest content,
The half day bravely lived and spent.
And when the night slips down, let me
Unstained and undishonored be;
Grant me to live this one day through
Up to the best that I can do.

When the disciples locked the doors, Christ knew He was sure of a welcome. He could not get their ear because of the din and confusion that came through the open doors. Closing the door to the world is opening the door to the Master. Don't be afraid of shutting the door. It is the best invitation for the Master to enter.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

Scripture Reading—2 Chronicles 4-7

PRAY ON

To talk with God, no breath is lost;
Talk on! Talk on!
To walk with God, no strength is lost;
Walk on! Walk on!
To wait on God, no time is lost;
Wait on! Wait on!
To grind the ax, no work is lost,
Grind on! Grind on!
The work is quicker, better done;
Not needing half the strength laid on;
Grind on! Grind on!

Lord, speak to me, that I may speak
In living echoes of Thy tone;
As Thou hast sought, so let me seek
Thy erring children lost and lone.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

Scripture Reading—2 Chronicles 8-13

CALL AND I WILL ANSWER

A devout Christian in Chicago developed a humanly incurable ailment—a tumor of the brain. Two of Chicago's greatest brain specialists were called in on the case. On the following Sunday, the pastor stood before his people, calling their attention to the critical illness of the fellow member. "We'll not have formal worship service this morning. Instead we will unitedly pray that the great Physician, Jesus, will work a miracle and completely restore His servant and our friend. We will trustingly claim the promise: 'And this is the confidence we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us' (1 John 5:14). Never have I felt the presence and power of the Holy Spirit as I now feel His presence! I know that God will hear our cry!" The service was turned into an old-fashioned prayer meeting. Before the meeting adjourned, the Christian doctor on the case entered and exclaimed, "Thank God! a miracle has happened! Our friend has a chance to live. God has answered prayer!"

How wonderful to have the right,
Up past the stars to take our flight,
Into God's holy, sacred light,
Beyond the blue;
There to have access by His grace,
Into the presence of His face,
And then, to earth, our way retrace,
With hope anew.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

Scripture Reading—2 Chronicles 14-18

WE'VE DONE ALL WE CAN!

"We've done all we can for your boy," said two physicians to a sad father and mother. "There is no human skill that can save him!" It was Sunday. In every church throughout Louisville, Kentucky, earnest prayer was offered for little Jack. Dr. John R. Sampey asked prayer for Jack over a nation-wide broadcast. Merely as a gesture of concern, the doctors returned to see Jack on Sunday afternoon. A few minutes later they left his bedside, saying, "It's a miracle! The fever is gone! Jack is sleeping peacefully!"

"Today Jack is a happy Christian, a deacon in his church and a successful businessman," said Dr. Sampey.

Prayer is a safety valve for the mind and the soul. If Christianity were practically applied to our everyday life it would so purify and vitalize the race that at least one-half of our sickness and sorrow would disappear.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

Scripture Reading—2 Chronicles 19-23

HOW CHURCH WAS HEATED IN JULY

Five ministerial students were visiting in London on a hot Sunday in July. While they were waiting for the doors to open, a man approached and asked, "Gentlemen, would you like to see the heating apparatus of the church?" They thought, "How queer he is to want to show us the heating system on a hot day in July!" Following him, they came to a door. He quietly opened it and whispered: "There, sirs, is our heating apparatus!" Some seven hundred intercessors were kneeling in prayer, seeking an outpouring of God's Spirit upon the service which was soon to begin in the Tabernacle. *That unknown guide was Spurgeon himself!*

Prayer isn't a monologue. It is dialogue—our talking to God and God talking to us: "I will hear what God the LORD will speak" (Psalm 85:8).

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

Scripture Reading—2 Chronicles 24-28

PRAY BEFORE STORM BREAKS

An elderly black who for many years had faithfully served his Lord, was riding along in a buggy in the countryside with an atheistic white man. Ominous, black clouds began to gather and darken the skies. A cyclone was in the making. Presently trees began to sway to and fro, houses began to topple, and flying debris swished past. The atheist, in terror, called his companion, "Pray! Call upon God to save us!" But the black man replied, "I did my praying before the storm broke."

The time to pray is now. The time to get right with God is now. The Bible says: "Seek ye the LORD while he may be found" (Isaiah 55:6).

Surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto thee (Psalm 32:6).

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

Scripture Reading—2 Chronicles 29-32

THE CAMEL KNEELS

The camel at the close of day
Kneels down upon the sandy plain
To have his burden lifted off,
And rest to gain.

My soul, thou too shouldst to thy knees
When daylight draweth to a close
And let thy Master lift thy load,
And grant repose.

Else how canst thou tomorrow meet,
With all tomorrow's work to do,
If thou thy burden all the night
Dost carry through?

The camel kneels at break of day
To have his guide replace his load;
Then rises up anew to take
The desert road.

So thou shouldst kneel at morning dawn,
That God may give thee daily care;
Assured that He no load too great
Will make thee bear.

MONDAY, APRIL 4

Scripture Reading—2 Chronicles 33-36

EARNESTNESS IN PRAYER

Two African chiefs came to Chalmers and said, "We want Christian teachers. Will you send them?"

Chalmers had no one to send and he said, "I have no one. I cannot send anyone."

Two years passed and these two chiefs came to him again. Chalmers himself happened to be at liberty, and he went to their village, arriving on Sunday morning. To his surprise, he saw the whole tribe on their knees, in perfect silence.

Chalmers said to one of the chiefs, "What are you doing?"

(Turn the Page)

"We are praying," he said.

"But you are not saying anything," Chalmers said.

"White man," the chief answered, "we do not know what to say. For two years every Sunday morning we have met here. And for four hours we have been on our knees, and we have been praying like that, but we do not know what to say."

How many in America are as earnest as these native Africans were?

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

Scripture Reading—Ezra 1-5

SOMEBODY PRAYED!

A thrilling incident happened in a little hut in Africa. A missionary awoke suddenly. She had a feeling of imminent danger. Fear held her in a vice-like grip. The moon's rays shone through the window, but she could see nothing wrong. She continued to have a feeling of great danger so she awoke her husband. They talked in a whisper. Looking beside the bed, they saw a fearsome creature—a giant cobra whose head was raised, ready to strike and inject venom into the flesh of the missionaries. Quickly the husband reached for his rifle and shot the cobra through its head.

Our story is not complete. One day while a friend of the missionaries was sweeping the floor in her Canadian town, she had an irresistible urge to pray for these missionaries. "They are right now in great danger," she said to herself. So she began to pray. Presently God's peace came into her heart. She knew that God had worked in behalf of her faraway friends. Later, when the missionaries told her of their frightful experience, she compared the date and time of the two experiences. The peril of the missionaries and the burden to pray for them corresponded to the minute!

More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

Scripture Reading—Ezra 6-10

WHERE TWO OR THREE

A dear friend of mine, Mrs. Donald B. McHenry, made elaborate preparations for a prayer meeting in her home. She invited many neighbors and friends, but only five came. How disappointed and discouraged she was! Defeated, she said to me, "Only five attended the prayer meeting. I expected at least twenty-five!" Then I said, "Praise the Lord! In reality you had two more than you needed to claim the sure promise: 'For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.' "

O teach me, Lord, that I may teach
The precious things Thou dost impart;
And wing my words, that they may reach
The hidden depths of many a heart.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

Scripture Reading—Nehemiah 1-3

THE BUTTON OF PRAYER

Recently a large hospital in a great city was completed. It is equipped with the latest and most improved gadgets. Their purpose was explained by an attendant to visitors on the opening day. Regarding a button at the bed of each patient, the attendant said: "By the old method, a patient pressed a button beside his bed, and a bell rang. Sometimes the bell was not heard, or at least unheeded. The sound of various bells was also confusing. But now the weakest patient may touch a button and instantly four lights flash—one in the office, one in the hall, and two others in different parts of the building. It is impossible for anyone to turn the lights off until the call has been answered and the patient who pressed the button has been visited!"

If human ingenuity has devised such a clever thing to bring help to needy ones, surely God will hear the cry of His children in times of weakness and great need. When the weakest hand touches the button of prayer, there is no power in Hell or earth which can hinder the signal, nor bar the answer!

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

Scripture Reading—Nehemiah 4-8

GOD WORKS MYSTERIOUSLY!

When Adoniram Judson was dying, news came to him that some Jews in Turkey had been converted through reading the account of his sufferings in Burma. "This awes me," said Judson to his wife. "This is good news. When I was a young man, I prayed for the Lord to send me to the Jews in Jerusalem as a missionary. But He sent me to Burma to preach and to suffer the tortures of imprisonment. Now, because of my sufferings, God has brought some Jews in Turkey to repentance!"

Deep in unfathomable mines
Of never-failing skill,
He treasures up His bright designs,
And works His sovereign will!

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

Scripture Reading—Nehemiah 9-11

WHEN BURDENED TO PRAY

Dr. Harry A. Ironside was asked: "If you had prayed all your life for the salvation of a loved one, and then you got word that that person had died without giving any evidence of being saved, would your belief in prayer or faith in God be shattered?"

Dr. Ironside answered by telling the story of an unsaved man who had gone to sea. One night his mother awakened with a deep sense of need. A burden for her unsaved boy rested heavily upon her heart. She earnestly prayed for his salvation.

Weeks passed. Then, one day, there was a knock at her door and there stood her son! "Mother, I'm saved!" he exclaimed joyfully. Then he told her: "A few weeks ago, our ship was caught in a fearful storm. The waves seemed mountain high. Hope of our outriding the storm vanished. Suddenly the ship gave a lurch and I was swept overboard. As I began to sink, the awful thought came to me: 'I'm lost forever! Where will I spend eternity?' In agony of heart I cried out, 'O God, I look, I look to Jesus!' Then I lost consciousness. After the storm had abated, the sailors came out to clear the deck. They found me lying, unconscious, against a hatch!"

If God has burdened your soul for the salvation of anyone, keep on praying! God has put the burden upon your heart, and in His own good time and manner, He will answer your prayers.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

NOTICE

Due to our policy of printing only 48 issues a year, there will not be a paper dated March 30, 1983. The next issue will be dated April 6, 1983.

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY

(Continued from Page 10)

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries	$2,593.69
Utilities	888.20
Food	149.48
Office Supplies	96.20
Store Operations	287.02
Taxes	139.64
Maintenance and Repairs	941.91
Gas	143.85
Mileage and Travel	300.00
Promotional	666.17
Miscellaneous	300.00
Total	$6,506.16
Miscellaneous— Deans and Manning PA Professional Services	$ 300.00

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 9)

games. Dr. Moody will preach at 7 p.m. They will be delighted to have any Free Will Baptist ministers to join them. If anyone plans to come, please contact Arlinda Williams, at Cragmont, by May 1, 1983.

Sweet Gum Grove Church Announces Revival

Sweet Gum Grove Church, Route 1, Stokes, North Carolina, announces its spring revival to be held April 4 through April 8. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Calvin Heath. There will be special singing each night with a nursery provided, story hour (ages 2-4), and children's church (ages 5-9). The pastor, the Rev. David Hill, and church members invite everyone to attend these services.

Albemarle District Youth Fellowship to Meet

The Albemarle District Youth Fellowship Convention will meet on Monday, April 4, 1983, at 7:30 p.m., at First Church, Plymouth. Registration will begin at 7:15 p.m. Anyone participating in any public speaking competition is asked to be there by 7:15 p.m. All young people, their youth leaders, parents, and ministers are encouraged to attend.

Revival Services to Be at First Church, Tarboro

Revival services will be held at First Church, Tarboro, March 28—April 1, at 7:30 p.m. with the Rev. C. F. Bowen of Ayden as the evangelist. There will be special music featured each service. Dr. O. B. Jones is the pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Plan to Attend . . .

THE STATE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

To Be Held at: Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Black Creek, North Carolina (Wilson)

Saturday, March 26, 1983

Registration Begins at 9 a.m.

Classes will start at 9:15 a.m.

O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together (Psalm 34:3).

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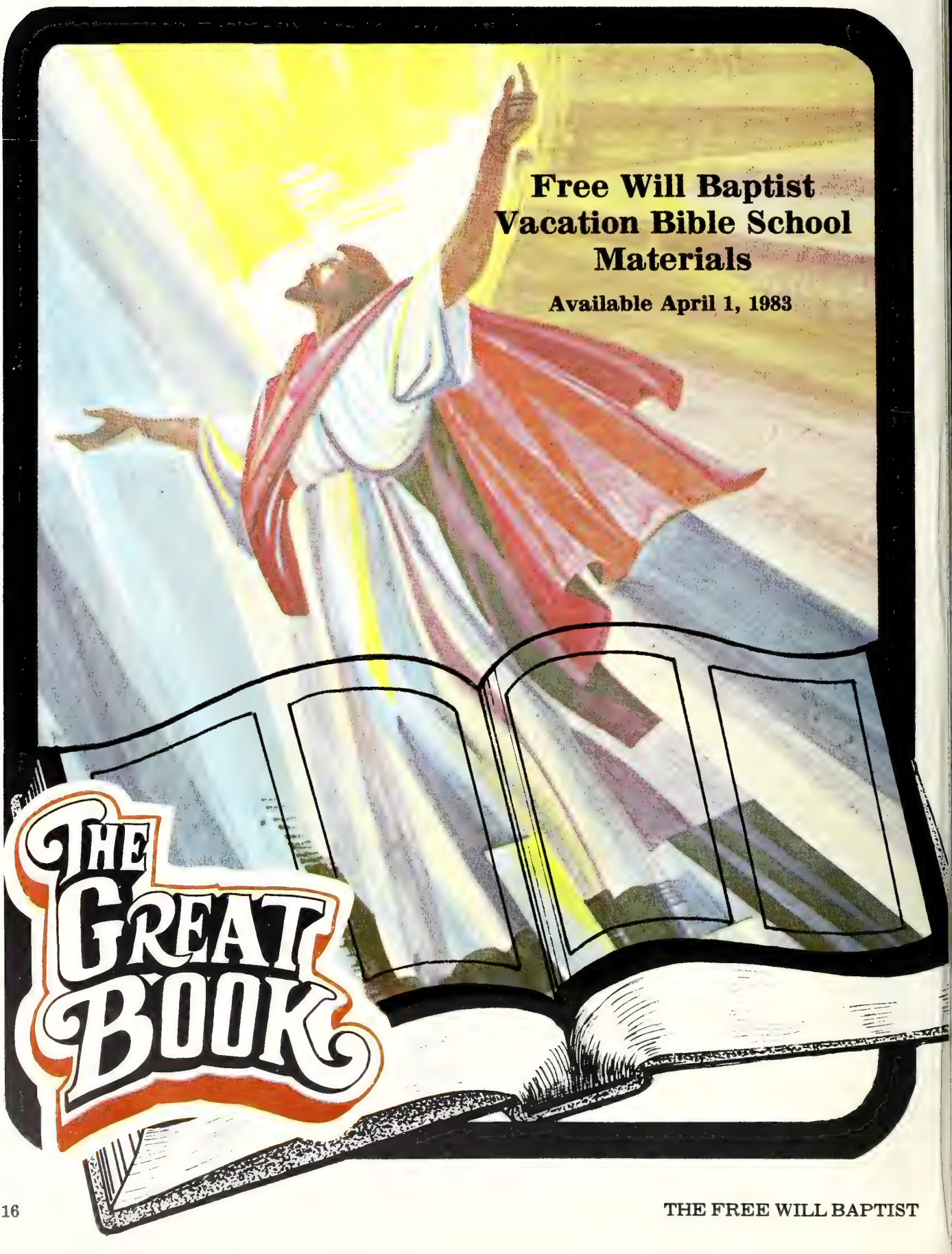

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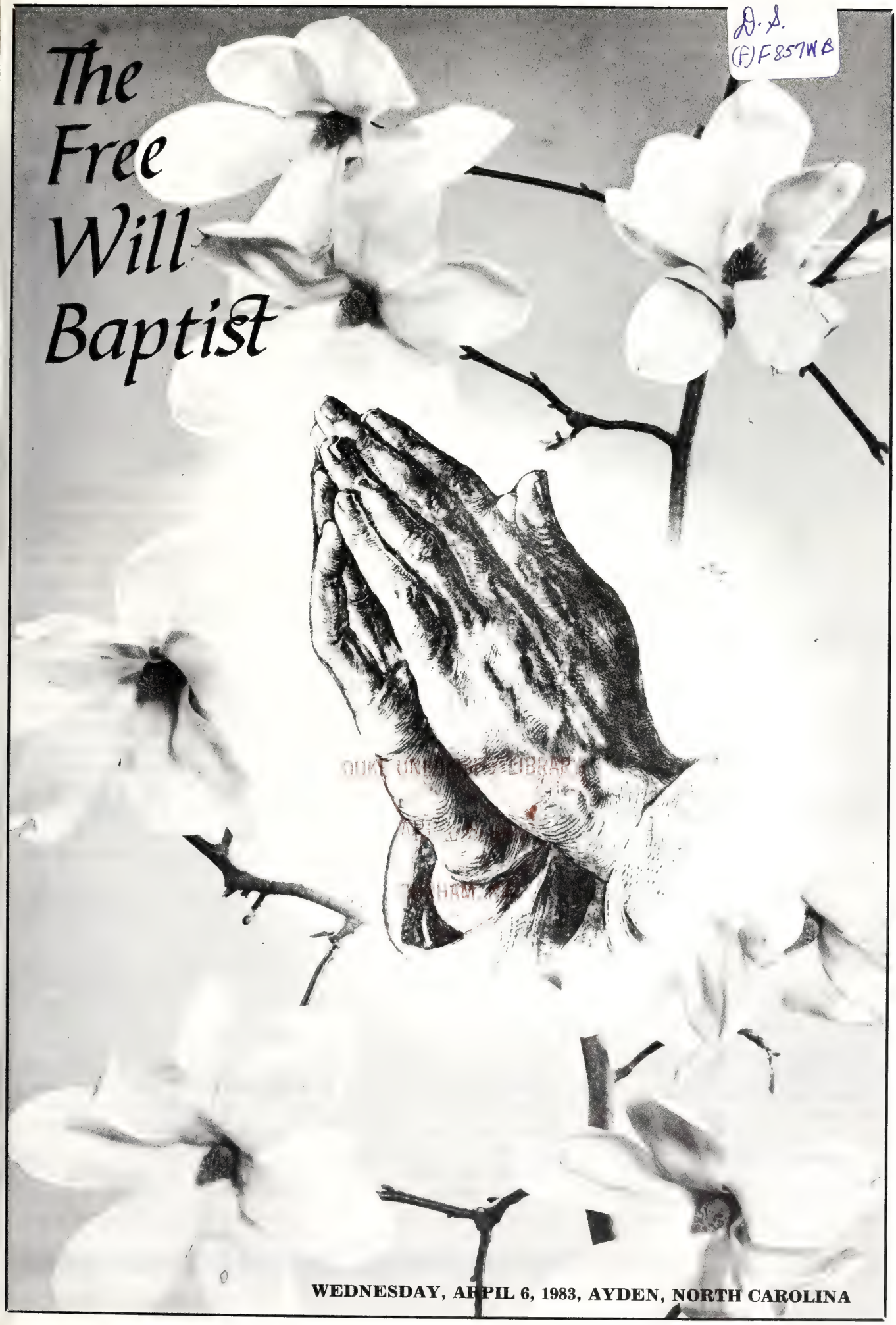

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Volume 98 Number 14 15

April 6, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

Edited and published forty-eight times a year by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158. Second-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina (USPS 209-440).

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

Fred A. Rivenbark, President; Dewey C. Boling, Vice President; Robert May, Secretary; C. Felton Godwin, Assistant Secretary; James B. Hardee; Walter Sutton; Clarissa May; Adrian Grubbs; Ruth Taylor; David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

Editorial

PASS THE ERASER!

Some editorials are written all at once. I go to my office, close the door, sit down beside a stack of notes and write until my thoughts have been adequately composed into a "meaningful" piece. Yes, I sometimes write like that and it's a lot of fun—but it doesn't happen too often.

Other editorials are written, word by word, over long periods of time. These writings are interrupted by hundreds of things. Getting up to check the composition of a page and not getting back for half an hour. Answering the phone. A conference with a writer or minister. Spending an entire afternoon trying to track down a computer repairman, while part of the staff tries to find a computer chip (which was really a module) which was apparently smashed by the United States Postal Service. This editorial has been that kind. It has taken me several weeks to write; and I'm not sure it has been fun.

Then there are the issues no one wants to touch with a ten-foot-pole, the situations that happen which the vast majority of you feel should be left alone (or, at least that is what you have told me). Well, it never seems to fail that these same issues are the ones I, too, have difficulty dealing with, understanding or gathering all the facts on. I feel it is my duty to know the whole story; and I do not want to join the ranks of those who do not want to be confused with the facts. But then again, these are the issues about which some people feel I am obligated to write. Some of my predecessors did so—and were lambasted; some of my predecessors did not do so—and they were lambasted. A perfect "Catch-22." While working on this, a process that may take months, I try to continue business as usual.

I try to follow the directives of those to whom I am responsible. The following policy being part of their guidelines:

> *The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.*

The materials which have to be scrutinized according to these guidelines often open debate. Case in point: the Free Will Baptist Children's Home and compliance. After searching the minutes of the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, it **might be said** that the Board acted contrary to the wishes of Free Will Baptists. But how many Free Will Baptists? This I cannot say. Then again, I know that we as Free Will Baptists **have not supported** the Home financially as was needed. We said we would, but our support was only verbal—and words do not feed children. Then again, there are those of the persuasion that the present debate with the Children's Home does not really touch the real problems; they are not sure the troubles have been defined and/or recognized. Herein are three sides of a picture—a picture with many perspectives, all of which evoke strong feelings on the part of fellow Christians.

This raises the question: How wide should I open Pandora's box? for I know that everyone does not agree with

(Continued on Page 18)

THOUGHTS ON SPRING

W. Burkette Raper
Mount Olive, North Carolina

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease (Genesis 8:22).

God in His wisdom has built rhythm into the universe, and He has also put rhythm into our lives. There is an ebb and flow of both nature and human experience. To discover this rhythm and to order our lives in harmony with it is one of the secrets of happy and successful living.

The Universe

For many it has been a long, bleak and dismal winter. In some areas there have been harsh storms and record rainfalls which have resulted in floods, erosion, and the devastation of property. The rhythm of nature, however, is sure. Regardless of how strong the grip of winter, it must give way to spring.

The dependable order of nature will work its way. Winter's chilling winds will yield to the warm breezes of spring. The ugly will be transformed into the beautiful, and the dormant into life. The miracle of spring cannot be restrained, for the rhythm of nature is irresistable. What God has ordained will come to pass.

The Rhythm of Life

Just as there are seasons in nature, there are also seasons in life. There is the winter when we must withdraw and try to protect ourselves from the hard realities of life: sickness, suffering, loneliness, despair, and other bitter experiences over which we seem to have little control.

But there is also the spring when we are young and our spirits are radiant. The birds sing and life flows along like a song.

In the summer of life we feel that we are the captains of our souls and the masters of our fate. Our roots have become deep and we feel stable and secure. The dreams of our youth appear to be at our fingertips. We have a sense of having arrived and we would like to "cut the frame" and hold life right where it is. But the seasons are not complete.

Summer is followed by fall. The trees display their most brilliant colors and the fields yield their harvest. So it is in human experience. The spring and summer of life bring us to our most productive years and finally to the harvest.

No season of life is permanent, but undergirding them all is the hand of an eternal God who looks upon His creation and says, "It is good." He is a God who has built order into nature and purpose into our lives.

Through the gift of spring God speaks to us once again. He is in control of the universe and He is also in control of history. His truth will triumph, love will prevail, and life will reign over death.

The message of the seasons is that God can be trusted.

The Open Mail Box

A MATTER OF CHRISTIAN CONCERN

Many times in the past twelve years I have picked up my pen to write an article similar to this and then decided against the idea. Today, as the events of the past twelve to thirteen years in regards to the Child Care Ministry we have as a denomination at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home weigh heavily upon my heart and mind, I feel compelled to share my Christian concerns with our Free Will Baptists.

In 1914, the year following the birth of our State Convention of Churches (1913), a formal motion was passed pledging the State Convention to build an orphanage. On May 23, 1920, the first four children were admitted to the then "Free Will Baptist Orphanage." In the 1955 State Convention a motion was passed changing the name to the "Free Will Baptist Children's Home." The reason was that most of the children we were serving had one or both parents living. For sixty-three years we as Free Will Baptists have been involved in this great ministry to which God has called us. We have been blessed with helping approximately 1,000 children who were the unfortunate victims of circumstances beyond their control. As I understand the Bible, this is a valid ministry (Matthew 19:14, Mark 10:14, Luke 18:16, James 1:27). I believe in all of the work of our denomination and certainly our ministry of child care.

Today this ministry causes genuine Christian concern in my soul. As with other institutions and enterprises, our State Convention elects a representative Board of Directors to serve as the governing body for our Free Will Baptist Children's Home. These people are good Christians who really care about this ministry. They put much of themselves into their work. Serving on the Board means they have to make many important decisions. Two chief concerns are the quality of child care being offered and the financial support required to render the same.

The far-reaching decision of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 has affected all of us in every area of life. It has also affected our Children's Home. This government directive aimed at desegregation of society on all public levels was/is a big change. All of us have some racial prejudices, at least I know I do. In 1970, our Board of Directors at the Children's Home saw the "handwriting on the wall." They realized that in order to continue to offer quality child care and to have children placed with us from the Department of Social Services we would have to sign the "Civil Rights Compliance Act." They were concerned about getting children and direct funding from government agencies as well as many services which we would otherwise have to pay for. The Board of Directors did what they felt was best for our child care ministry; they complied, signing the "Civil Rights Compliance Act." At the State Convention "the fat hit the fire." A great furor ensued resulting in a special called session and the State Convention, in an unprecedented move, instructed the Children's Home Board of Directors to withdraw from compliance; this was accompanied by not so subtle threats of withdrawal of support by churches and individuals. Again, in 1979, after 18 months of intensive efforts of the Executive Directors of the Children's Home to "educate" our people to the need of being in compliance, our Board of Directors advised the need of signing compliance in order to assure the perpetuity of our child care ministry. Very few people responded to the area meetings held across the State. Why? Some people who have a great deal of power and influence in our denomination began to talk against the advice of the Board of Directors. A special meeting was held at the Children's Home to discuss the pro's and con's of signing compliance. Again not so subtle intonations of withdrawal of support and possible removal of some of the Board of Directors were heard. The result? The issue of compliance was swept under the rug once again. Again in the November and December 1982 meetings, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home voted to sign the Civil Rights Compliance Act of 1964. At present there is a concerned effort by many to keep this from happening. Again I ask, why?

It has been said the issue is "government money equals government control." We are all subject to the authority of the civil government. In Romans 13:1-7, Paul states the need for Christians to cooperate with the civil authorities. In Matthew 22:17-21, Mark 12:13-17, and Luke 20:21-26 Jesus implied the practical necessity of compliance with the civil authority. When our Foreign Missions work goes into a new country we have to comply with their laws. Mount Olive College, Cragmont, the Free Will Baptist Press, Church Finance, Retirement Homes, the Board of Superannuation, Home Missions; all of these have to comply with the law of the land. Why are we so sensitive about the issue of compliance at our Children's Home? The issue is prejudice, clean and simple, yours and mine.

We teach the song, "Jesus Loves All the Children of the World, Red, Yellow, Black and White." Certainly that is true, but do we? Our Foreign Missions Work says we do; over $20,000 was sent to hunger relief

through our Foreign Missions Board and World Vision last year. That says we do love all God's children. Our policy at our college says we do. But our action at the Children's Home makes a negative statement. Here is my Christian concern. Are we willing to sacrifice a ministry of 63 years to which God has called us to prejudice? Those who say the issue is not black and white are really right. The real issue is children who need caring for and our opportunity for life-changing Christian witness through child care. Are we willing to sacrifice this ministry? I pray not! The need is still here.

Many say that all the children could be placed in foster care homes. The Department of Social Services says it cannot find enough foster care homes for needy children. How many of us are willing to open our homes and families to the special problems and responsibilities of foster care?

In 1970 our people said, withdraw and we will provide the money and get the children. The money has not come and the placement of children on a private basis has almost ended. Almost all are now going through the Department of Social Services, and we are not eligible to receive them. Since the withdrawal of state funds over a year ago of about $90-100,000 our income has been in the red.

What is most important? Our petty prejudice or God's children who need care and precious young souls for whom we have a vital Christian message of love, hope, faith and salvation? As a Christian and a Free Will Baptist all my life, this matter causes me great concern.

De Wayne Eakes

CHURCH OPPOSES ACTION OF CHILDREN'S HOME BOARD

The members of Hickory Grove Church, Route 2, Robersonville, North Carolina, met in a special called business session on February 20, 1983, to discuss the recent action of the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in signing the Civil Rights Compliance Act of 1964.

The church went on record expressing "the utmost dissatisfaction with the recent decision of the Children's Home Board." A motion was made and carried to withhold all support from the Home. Hickory Grove people believe this matter should be reconsidered and a decision made based on the belief and desires of Free Will Baptists.

Charles Branch, *Pastor*

SIGNING COMPLIANCE

TO: 1982-83 BOARD MEMBERS—FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR YOUR DECISION TO SIGN INTO COMPLIANCE WITH THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

Dear Fellow Christians:

You are to be commended for the stand you have taken in regards to the signing into compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Your actions required a great deal of courage in light of the dissension expressed by a few churches and individuals in our denomination.

There are many of us who feel as you do—that we have waited long enough to take this action. We appreciate your seven reasons for going ahead at this time. We also feel the number one reason should be our willingness to show God's love through acceptance of all children into this home. Surely Jesus would have no restrictions on who is to be fed, clothed, and sheltered when there is a need. Those who have gone hungry, cold, unsheltered, malnourished both physically and spiritually while we dragged our feet should lie heavy on our hearts and consciences.

Thanks to your courage and foresight, we should no longer have this burden to bear. Now that the decision has been made and acted upon, I trust those of us who profess to be Christians will put our hands to the plow and not look back. We can now begin to serve all the children who need us regardless of their background, race, or creed.

Our Saviour promises us that if we have done acts of love and kindness to the least of us, so have we to Him. He is in the heart of every child. It is our responsibility to mold those hearts and minds to be a credit to humankind. Who knows what the future holds for those who are trained and loved in our Children's Home. And who can afford the loss should this move not be made.

On behalf of the children who will now be taken care of in a Christian atmosphere, I thank you for your courageous and bold stand. I understand the decision was probably very hard for each of you, some perhaps more than others, but given time I am sure you will be able to see many benefits to the future children who will be served and to our denomination. You have made me proud to be a Free Will Baptist.

Sincerely,
Peggy Bailey, Clerk
Rose of Sharon
Free Will Baptist Church

NOTICE TO ALL FWB MINISTERS

A large number of General Baptist pastors will gather at Cragmont Assembly May 17-19 for their annual Ministers' Conference. The daily schedule is 8, breakfast; 9-9:10, devotions; 9:10-10, communications skills by Mr. Ernie Rogers; 10-10:30, break; 10:30-12, expository preaching from Hebrews by Dr. Dale Moody. The afternoon will be free for fellowship and games. Dr. Moody will preach at 7 p.m.

(Continued on Page 18)

FESTIVAL OF GOSPEL MUSIC TO BE HELD

The Down East Boys

The North Carolina Free Will Baptist Layman's League Convention cordially invites everyone to attend a Festival of Gospel Music, on Saturday, April 30, 1983, at Eagles Nest, Mount Olive, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be catered by Wilber's of Goldsboro at $3.75 per plate. Program participants include: The Collie Singers, Nashville; The Hopper Brothers and Connie, Madison; The Watchmen, Goldsboro; The Hall Sisters; The Down East Boys, Potter's Hill; The New Creations, Mount Olive College; The New Life Singers, Wilson; and The Sentinels, Durham. Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival Services at Owens Chapel Church

Revival services will be held at Owens Chapel Church, Route 3, Elm City, North Carolina, through April 9. The Rev. Mike Scott will be the guest evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Melvin Moore, and the congregation invite everyone to attend these services.

Revival Services at Edgewood Church

Revival services will be held at Edgewood Church, near Crisp, North Carolina, April 6-8, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. O. B. Jones of First Church in Tarboro will be the evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Robert Strickland, and the congregation invite everyone to attend. There will be special singing each night.

Central Conference Ordaining Council to Meet

The Central Conference Ordaining Council will meet Tuesday, April 19, 1983, at the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, at 10 a.m. Anyone having any business with the council, please contact Harry Grubbs for an appointment; or call 756-6600 or 756-8585 in Greenville.

Revival Services at Hillsberry Church

Revival services will be held at Hillsberry Church, Clinton, April 18-22. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The evangelist for the services is the Rev. Henry Armstrong. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Robert Rollins. There will be special singing each night. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

News from Verona Church

Verona Church near Jacksonville announces upcoming events at the church. There will be a dedication service held for the new church on Sunday, April 10. A "pig-pickin' " will follow the morning service. Revival services will begin May 2 with the pastor, the Rev. Boyd Shook, conducting the services, which begin at 7:30 p.m. On June 9, at 7:30 p.m., a gospel singing with the HEAVENBOUND of Kinston, North Carolina, will be held. The pastor and congregation invite everyone to share in these services.

Free Union Church Revival In Progress

Free Union Church is having revival services through April 9 with the Rev. Charles Renfrow, pastor of Piney Grove Church near Kenly, as the evangelist. There will be special singing each night. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The prayer room opens at 7:10 p.m. A warm welcome is extended to everyone.

Revival Services in Progress At St. Mary's Church

Revival services are in progress through April 8 at St. Mary's Church near Kenly. Services begin at 7:30 p.m. The speaker is the Rev. Royster Martin, pastor of Holly Springs Church. The church membership and the pastor, the Rev. Graham Faucette, extend a very cordial invitation to everyone to attend the remaining services. A nursery is provided each night.

Recent Happenings at Folkstone Church

This new year of 1983 has gotten off to a good start for the youth at Folkstone Church, Holly Ridge. They have been busy with the many activities besides their regular meetings.

The AFC wrote messages on Valentine cards which were delivered by their leaders to patients in Onslow Memorial Hospital. The Cherubs designed their own cards to give to their favorite friend after they had a lesson about their most special friend, Jesus.

Recently, a group representing all of the youth of the church helped the pastor, the Rev. Ronnie Parker, conduct a special Sunday afternoon service at Britthaven Nursing Home in Jacksonville, North Carolina. Upon arrival there, the young people scattered throughout the home and invited the patients to the recreation room where the service was held. They helped out by pushing the patients in their wheelchairs and later taking them back to their rooms. They provided the singing for the day, assisted by Alvis Hobbs and Mitchell Parker on their guitars. It was difficult to decide who was blessed more, the young people or the patients!

The YFA recently sponsored a fund-raising dinner. They helped cook and serve delicious BBQ and fried chicken plates.

Folkstone is very proud of the youth and is thankful for the leaders that work with them. The YFA leaders are Virginia Hardison and Lola Yopp; AFC leaders, Kathy Parker and Becky Fry; Cherubs, Sharon Henderson and Cathy Medlin.

Pleasant Plain Announces Revival

Pleasant Plain Church, Route 2, Selma, will be having its spring revival through April 8. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Keith Cobb of Fremont Church will be the guest evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Ernie Price, invites everyone to attend these services.

DEACON'S DAY HELD AT TARBORO CHURCH

On January 30, 1983, the First Church of Tarboro honored their deacons during the morning worship hour. In appreciation for their services the pastor, the Rev. O. B. Jones, read the Scripture, had prayer and presented certificates to the present deacons, former deacons and to the wives of the deceased. It was a very nice service.

Elm Grove Church Has Revival Services

Elm Grove Church near Ayden will be having revival services through April 8 with the Rev. Frankie Flowers as the evangelist. The services will start at 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each night. The pastor, the Rev. Steve Hargrove, and the church members invite everyone to attend the remainder of the services.

Revival in Progress Rock Springs Church

Revival services are in progress at Rock Springs Church near Bailey nightly at 7:30 p.m. They will continue through April 8. Special music will be featured each night. The Rev. Dewey Boling is the evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Billy Nowell, and the congregation invite everyone to attend the remaining services.

Revival Services in Progress At Hickory Grove Church

Revival services are in progress through April 8 at Hickory Grove Church, Route 2, Robersonville. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The guest evangelist is the Rev. Jack Mayo. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Charles E. Branch.

Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Friendship Church Has Revival Services

Friendship Church, Route 1, Middlesex, is having revival services through April 8. The time of the services is 8 p.m. The speaker is the Rev. Craig Simmons, pastor of First Church, Wilson. There will be special singing each evening. Everyone is welcome to attend these services.

Mt. Tabor Church Announces Its Spring Revival

Mt. Tabor Church near Creswell announces its spring revival services through April 8. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Bass Mitchell of Cove

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City. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The entire church membership invites everyone to attend these services.

Albemarle District WA Convention to Meet

The Albemarle District WA Convention will be held at Mount Tabor Church, Creswell, on Thursday, April 14. The theme will be "Be Ye Steadfast." The theme Scriptures will be taken from 1 Corinthians 15:58: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:45—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "Take Time to Be Holy"
—Devotion, Mrs. Virginia Haire
10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Eleanor Moore
—Response, Mrs. Verena Paul
—President's Greetings, Miss Becky Jo Sumner
—Recognition of Ministers and Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
10:30—Reading of Minutes
—Roll Call of Auxiliaries
10:45—Mission News, Home and Foreign
—Offering for Missions
—Hymn, "Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us"
11:00—Children's Home and Retirement Home Reports
—Offering for Children's Home
11:20—Special Music
11:30—Message, Mrs. Jean Ackiss
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn, "Trust and Obey"
1:05—Devotion, Mrs. Lew Ellen Parker
1:15—Mount Olive College News
1:30—Cragmont News
1:45—News from the Press
2:00—Youth Report
—Committee Reports
—Treasurer's Report
—Announcement of Next Convention
—Miscellaneous Business
—Benediction and Adjournment

Cragmont-Vandemere Campers Meet

A group of women who have been roommates in the Girls' Cottage at Cragmont Woman's Conferences and at Camp Vandemere held a reunion February 27 at the home of Nina Grace Register in Kinston.

Lorraine Sutton showed movies she and Annie Belle Hines made of Talent Time, softball and basketball games, trips to "the Creek," chapel services, and rocking and talking. Several people shared their snapshots.

The group discussed plans to attend both Conferences this year: Camp Vandemere, June 13-17, and Cragmont, the first two weeks in August.

Refreshments were served by Lillie Belle Spence, Sallie Dawson, Cynthia Wood, Happy Taylor, and co-hostesses Annie Belle Hines and Nina Grace Register. Others present included Ellen Riggs, Callie Turnage, Lula Mae Keggeris, Clara Elmore, Mamie Warren, Nettie Jenkins, and Phoebe Kennedy.

May's Chapel Church Has Sweetheart Banquet

Gray Outlaw and Candee Blanton were the AFC King and Queen chosen. They are the great grandchildren of the founders of May's Chapel church.

May's Chapel Church of Route 3, Dudley, North Carolina, honored their youth groups at a Sweetheart Banquet on Saturday night, February 19, at 7 p.m. A delicious meal was enjoyed by everyone.

Susan Fields and Robert Overman were the YFA King and Queen chosen from May's Chapel Sweetheart Banquet.

The Rev. Donald Fader of Kinston was guest speaker for the event. Following the meal, a sweetheart king and queen were selected from the AFCs and YFAs. Gray Outlaw and Candee Blanton were chosen for the AFCs, and Robert Overman and Susan Fields for the YFAs. A good time was had by everyone. Sponsors for the May's Chapel youth are: Mrs. Edythe Blanton, Mrs. Barbara Dills, and Miss Karen Bowen.

The Rev. Andrew Hill is pastor of May's Chapel Church. He, along with the church, invites everyone to come and worship with them.

Cape Fear Youth Rally

The Cape Fear Youth Rally met at Tee's Chapel Church, March 5. Pleasant Grove won the Youth Banner with 24 present; Robert's Grove won the total attendance banner with 34 members present. A total of 250 attended the Rally.

Please note the change of dates for the next meeting. It was originally scheduled to meet on April 2; it will meet on April 9 at Lee's Chapel Church beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention to Meet

The Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held at First Church, Goldsboro, on April 13, 1983. The theme will be "The Spirit Filled Life." The Scripture will be taken from Romans 5:5: "And hope maketh not ashamed: because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration
10:00—Opening Hymn, "Blessed Be the Name"
—Invocation and Devotion, Mrs. Laney Pierce
—Welcome, Mrs. Margie Shirley
—Response, Mrs. Bernice Godwin
—Greetings, Mrs. Grace Barbour, President
—Reading of Minutes
—Roll Call
—Appointment of Committees
—Hymn, "I Am Thine O Lord"
—Report of Chairman
—Denominational Enterprises
11:15—Morning Worship
—Special Music, Host Church
—Offering
—Convention Message, Mrs. Rudene Kennedy
—Hymn, "Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn, "Living for Jesus"
—Memorial Service, Mrs. T. C. Farmer
—Special Music
1:20—Miscellaneous Business
—Installation of Officers, Mrs. Alice Barrow
2:00—Adjournment

Revival Services to Be Held At First Church, Durham

The Rev. Fred Johnson, and the congregation of First Church, Chandler Road, Durham, extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend their revival services beginning Sunday, April 10, through Wednesday, April 13. The service on Sunday will begin at 7 p.m. and the services Monday through Wednesday will begin at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Ray Allman will be the guest speaker and there will be special singing each night.

East Rockingham Church Gets New Pastor

The Rev. Carl D. Lyons family.

The Rev. Carl D. Lyons and family is God sent and everyone knows it; the fruits are bearing witness.

On February 9, 1983, the Rev. Carl Lyons came to East Rockingham from Cabin Church. He is formerly from Barrett, West Virginia. He is married. His wife's name is Diana, and they have two children, Erika, 12; and Eric, 10.

The church has been in revival ever since Mr. Lyons has come to us. There have been 21 souls saved and 8 new members, with several inactive members moving back to active membership.

East Rockingham Church has had such a great movement of the Holy Spirit that they are announcing a "Get Acquainted Revival" on April 11 through April 15. The time of the services is 7 p.m. There will be special singing each night. Mr. Lyons will be conducting the services. Everyone is invited to attend. The church is located at 419 Airport Road, Rockingham; phone (919) 895-5530. Bus services are available for those attending the services.

Choral Society Rehearsal Scheduled

The Free Will Baptist Choral Society will have its first rehearsal on Saturday, April 16, from 9:30 a.m. until 12 noon in the chorus rehearsal room in the old campus building of Mount Olive College. This group is open to all people who would like to sing and fellowship, while learning to be more effective church musicians. You do not have to know how to read music to sing with this group.

Carolyn Knox, director of the College Chorus, will be leading the sessions, and it should prove to be an exciting and meaningful experience of singing. Pastors, pianists, organists, and choir members will all gain from this group.

The Choral Society has been formed to increase the effectiveness of musical worship in churches. By performing together with others of varied musical backgrounds, each person will learn to sharpen his skills of music reading, expression, and rehearsal techniques for church choirs.

Bring your friends and join us in an exciting morning of singing on Saturday, April 16. For information, call Jack Bircher at 638-8321.

Current Happenings at St. Mary's Grove Church

St. Mary's Grove Church, Route 3, Benson, enjoyed many special services during the time of Easter. On March 27, *A New Beginning* was presented. This play told the story of a young unsaved girl and her nightmare of being left behind at the rapture. The play was written and directed by the pastor, the Rev. Rod Jones.

On March 31, the Woman's Auxiliary sponsored a pre-Easter service that was enjoyed by everyone. Mrs. Grace Barbour, president of the Cape Fear District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, was the guest speaker.

A special communion service was held during the morning worship hour on April 3, Easter Sunday. For the evening worship, a cantata and pageant, *The Resurrection,* was presented.

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AN INTERVIEW WITH MISSIONARY FRED BAKER BY THE DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

DIRECTOR: Fred, has your furlough met your expectations?

FRED: Yes, we had set several specific goals for this furlough. (1) To visit our many friends here throughout the State Convention; (2) to make many new acquaintances; (3) to share what God is doing in answer to our people's prayers and to challenge God's children to greater involvement; (4) to get some additional training we needed. It has been exciting and rewarding to see these goals being reached by God's grace.

DIRECTOR: How have Kim and Stevie adjusted to being back in the United States?

FRED: Very well, they are making good grades in school. They have adjusted well to long hours of riding in a car. Kim and Stevie enjoy making new friends, but they do miss their friends in the Philippines.

DIRECTOR: Has Linda gotten warm yet? I know she was cold even last summer.

FRED: Not completely, but we do praise the Lord for the very mild winter. The couple of warm days have begun to warm her some. Linda is excited at the coming of spring and summer.

DIRECTOR: Has deputation been fruitful? Have you been accepted well by the churches?

FRED: Yes, I believe so. Many question and answer periods have helped the people know better what is going on. We have tried to stress in our message the need and responsibility of every Christian to be involved in world evangelization. I believe the response has been good.

Yes, the churches have accepted us so warmly. They make us feel right at home. They have expressed their love for us in serving meals, refreshments and praying for us.

DIRECTOR: Do you find the churches excited about Foreign Missions?

FRED: Very much so. I sense a great awareness and excitement among our people and I think this is growing. There is a general rise in mission concern. We praise the Lord for this.

DIRECTOR: Approximately how many churches will you visit this furlough?

FRED: Around 92.

DIRECTOR: What is the most encouraging thing you have experienced in our churches this furlough?

FRED: We have been encouraged to see this new awareness of missions among our people and to see many individuals and churches accepting their responsibility in this God-given task of world evangelization. Of course, there is no way to express the encouragement that comes from a warm handshake and the simple words: "I'm praying daily for you."

DIRECTOR: Are you and your family looking forward to returning to the Philippines in June? (June 21 is the tentative departure date.)

FRED: Yes, we are excited about getting back. We will miss our families and friends here. But, we are looking forward to being reunited with the Barnard family, our Filipino friends, and the work. It will be a joy to see the progress made and to get started on the future. There is so much to be done.

DIRECTOR: What will be your immediate concerns when you arrive in the Philippines?

FRED: We need to get our outstation started so that new churches will be planted and souls saved, an irrigation system for the school garden. We also have to build the building on Philippine Bible Institute campus and get our press operating.

DIRECTOR: Fred, is there one special thing you would like to say to the good people who make this program of world outreach possible?

FRED: On behalf of the Baker family we would like to say,

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OUR CHILDREN AND THE HOME

The firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field (Exodus 23:16).

This is our Children's Home. Hundreds of families in local communities around our state are unchurched. They are plagued by divorce and separation. Children suffer from abuse, abandonment and neglect. Our Children's Home is meeting some of these needs, but it is felt that there is much more that can be done.

First of all, they need the ministry of your local church, your witness of the gospel, your gifts of love and sometimes your financial support. In spite of all your help, some families will need outside help and that is where the Children's Home comes into the picture.

A second way you can help these troubled families is by referring them to the Children's Home when there is a need for placement of children outside the home. Often the best a parent can do is to place their children until they can get their life together. The Children's Home can provide the "Christian home away from home" they need.

While the children are in care the children will receive the best possible care at the Children's Home. Special programs for all their needs, whether educational, physical, or emotional, will be met. Most importantly, however, will be the opportunity to experience Christ through dedicated Christian houseparents.

Our goal, through our Child Care Department, is to provide encouragement and support during the crisis of the parents and their children, no matter what they be at the time.

Our Children's Home cannot meet the needs of all the children with our campus program. Foster family homes provided by our people give some children an alternative to group child care when needed. Other children and their families need specialized care. Our Family Services workers help those families find the resources needed to meet their needs.

Ours is a cooperative ministry. It begins with you. Without your help, families and children in your community will continue to suffer. Therefore, let us unite our efforts as never before to reach the needs of these people.

It is imperative that all our people become sensitive to the needs of local families who need the help of a child caring agency. Have them call the Home, or better still, call for them. If the Home is able to provide the services that the child will need, we will do our utmost to help. We now can accept referrals not only through our church family, but from the courts and Departments of Social Services throughout the state.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON COMPLIANCE

I. GENERAL OPERATIONAL QUESTIONS

A. Will the Children's Home have a garden this year?

Yes, the Children's Home usually has about a 10-acre garden and the children and all campus employees take part in harvesting the vegetables.

B. Does the Home raise hogs or beef cattle?

No. The board decided to get out of farming several years ago due to the expenses involved.

C. Do the children work any or do they only play during the summer months?

The children have their own chores to do, as they would in any family. The boys help to mow and maintain the 20-acre campus.

D. What is being done with the endowment funds that various churches have given?

All endowments, with their stipulations, are invested with Church Finance Association and only the interest can be used by the Home.

E. Why does it cost so much to administer child care to so few children?

The Children's Home has 24 children in care. It costs approximately $1,200 per day to operate the Children's Home. Divide this figure by 24 hours per day and you have a figure of $50 per hour. This is 24-hour service. Bear in mind that you have 13 buildings, 13 full-time employees and 20 acres of campus to maintain. I would say that this is a bargain. To operate a place of this magnitude on $50 per hour would seem almost impossible.

II. BOARD STRUCTURE

A. By what method is a seat on the board obtained?

Usually people are nominated by another board member or by the delegates to the State Convention. All members are approved by the State Convention where election takes place.

B. What are the qualifications to be a board member?

A prospective board member should be an Original Free Will Baptist in good standing in his church.

C. How long is a term on the board?

Board members are elected for a four-year term and can succeed themselves two times, serving only three consecutive terms. They must be off the board for one year before they are eligible for re-election.

D. Where are all the board members from conference wise and is each conference equally represented?

See article published in *The Free Will Baptist* February 16, 1983.

E. How are the conferences represented on the board?

Each conference should have at least one member on the board. The State Convention designates the representation. If a conference wants more representation then they should state their desire to the State Convention.

III. SIGNING OF COMPLIANCE

A. Why has this board gone against policies established by a special session of the State Convention held in Wilson, North Carolina, in the early 1970s concerning this very issue?

The board felt it *was necessary* to sign Compliance at this time;

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that it has delayed the process too long. It was the consensus of the board to take positive action on this issue, and the earlier they did this the sooner we would be able to cooperate with the various social services departments and court systems in working with the children that are available.

B. Did the board have the authority to make this decision?

The board did legally have the authority according to the Constitution of the Home.

C. Is the decision reversible?

Yes, at any time. If the Children's Home becomes dissatisfied with the operation under compliance, then it can withdraw just as quickly as they signed.

D. Do the terms of the deed for the Children's Home property allow the board to make this decision?

There are no stipulations in any of the deeds obtained by the Free Will Baptists for the Children's Home property concerning decisions of any kind.

IV. COMPLIANCE AND THE CHILDREN'S HOME BUILDINGS AND STAFF

A. Are all staff members certified and qualified under government regulations to remain employed by the Home? If not, won't there be a cost to the Home to meet staff certification and qualification?

All staff members for child care workers are certified to do the job to which they are assigned. The Children's Home is continually updating its programs to meet the present needs. There are no extra costs to certification just by signing compliance.

B. What changes will have to be made in the structure and interior of the buildings?

None. The buildings meet all licensing regulations.

C. Does the Home meet OSHA regulations at present?

Yes.

V. COMPLIANCE AND CONTROL

A. How will Free Will Baptists continue to have control if governmental aid is accepted?

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home will not relinquish any control by accepting government aid. It will be selling its services to the government. The Free Will Baptists own, without any indebtedness, and operate the Home according to the licensing bureau of the State. We are already meeting all the rules that would be in the compliance act. Signing compliance was only a matter of signing an agreement stating that we will work with public children regardless of race or national origin. There are no guidelines stating that we will have a certain number of any particular group.

B. Will Christian teaching be allowed or will we just be paying for the government to operate the Home for us?

The Free Will Baptists own and operate its own Home. It has its own doctrine and will continue to have its own doctrine. By being under compliance we do not agree to relinquish any Christian teaching or any doctrinal control to the government or to any other outside agency. Each employee when hired now signs a statement that he will uphold the Free Will Baptist doctrine.

C. Is the board aware that it will be dealing with not only its Home county (Nash) department of social services, but also the other 99 departments of social services in North Carolina and even possibly other states?

Yes. The Children's Home is currently licensed for all 100 counties and can receive from them children and funds.

D. Will the board be able to screen or possibly deny entrance of children through these departments and remain in compliance?

Yes. The Children's Home has its own policies and regulations and as long as we designate what these policies and regulations are, then we reserve the right to screen children according to the programs that we have to offer. If we cannot meet the needs of a particular child, they cannot be forced on us. If we can meet the needs of a child we will be expected to render services regardless of race, color, or national origin.

VI. COMPLIANCE AND FUTURE FUNDING

The Children's Home receives funds for only the children that they place here. It would amount to approximately $165 per month, per child placed by the social services departments and the courts. The Home will be eligible for educational dollars that will be used in the public school systems for the purpose of special-needs children. The amount is not known at this time, but will be allocated according to the needs of the children. The Home will be eligible for surplus food commodities administered by the State. It will also be eligible to receive approximately $1.15 per meal per child that we serve a carton of milk. The Home

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Retirement Homes

MRS. CORNELIA M. STOCKS

On February 24, 1983, Mrs. Cornelia (Corney) Stocks, a resident of the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, went to be with the Lord.

We, the members of Memorial Chapel Woman's Auxiliary, would like to pay tribute to her life while she lived among us.

There were three great loves in Mrs. Stock's life; first, she loved her Lord and Saviour; second, the Free Will Baptist Church, especially Pleasant Hill where she held membership; and third, her family and friends.

She was a devoted wife whose husband did safely trust in her, and a loving mother whose children arise up and call her blessed.

We miss her here on our campus, but we will see her again when we, too, go to live in that house not made with hands eternal in the Heavens.

Hazel Brown, *President*
Bonnie Farmer, *Secretary*

NOTICE

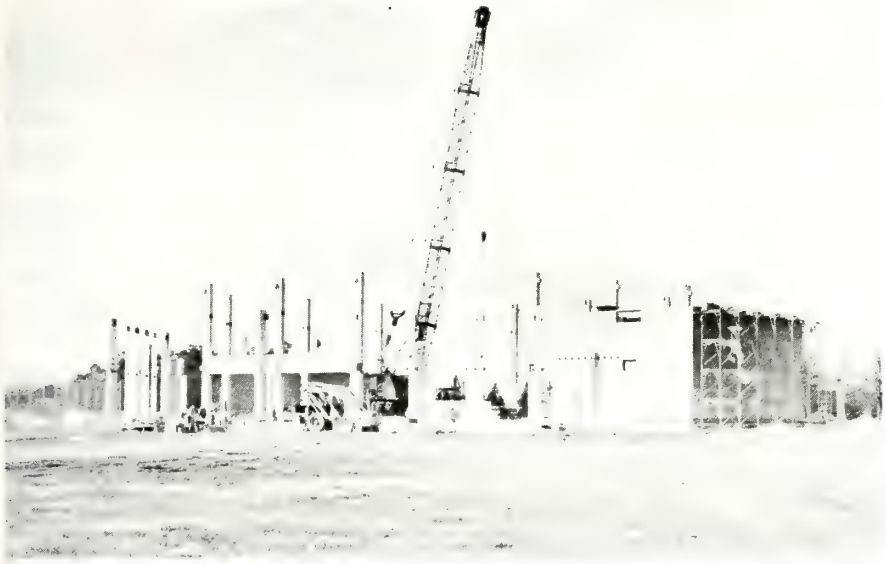
The Retirement Homes has an apartment available for immediate occupancy in the George P. Best House. Qualified persons may apply. For an application form please call (919) 235-2161; or write P.O. Box 250, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557.

Walter J. Sutton
Director

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Bobby Brown announces that he has a change of address. It is Route 1, Box 32, Pinetown, North Carolina 27867; phone, 927-3657 (home), 927-3293 (church).

COLLEGE HALL CONSTRUCTION PROGRESSES



Although the winter weather was not generally favorable for construction, work on College Hall is proceeding on schedule. The $2.8 million facility is expected to be completed by early 1984. It is designed to meet the physical education and athletic needs of the College, to provide a civic and recreational center for the community and to serve as a convention center for Original Free Will Baptists. The building is also a step forward toward making Mount Olive a four-year college.

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PAUL PALMER COURSES TO BE OFFERED

The Life and Letters of Paul will be taught on Tuesdays, April 5—May 24, by Miss Rudene Kennedy at Verona Church. Miss Kennedy is a member of Cabin Church.

The course will focus on the life and message of the Apostle Paul as expressed in his letters.

Tuition is $20 for the course which may be taken for credit or for non-credit. Students may register at the first class meeting they attend.

Church Growth: Key Factors and Concepts will be taught on Tuesday and Thursday nights, May 3-26, by the Rev. Charles Crisp in the Multipurpose Room at the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden. Mr. Crisp is director of Home Missions.

The course will include films, lectures, and discussion, and will focus on the Sunday school as an avenue for church growth. Registration and the purchase of texts can be completed at the first class meeting.

The cost is $20 if the course is taken for credit and $10 if taken for non-credit.

The Paul Palmer Institute is a program of continuing education in church service for ministers and laypersons offered through Mount Olive College.

For other courses or programs in your area or church, contact the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Director of Church Relations, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365. Telephone: 658-2502 (office); 658-9363 (home).

NEW CREATIONS TO SING

The New Creations, a gospel music and witnessing team from Mount Olive College, will sing at the Heritage Church of Charlotte, on Sunday, April 10, at 11 a.m.

MOC TO AWARD $1,000 GRANTS TO FREE WILL BAPTIST STUDENTS

Beginning with the 1983-84 academic year, Mount Olive College will award a $1,000 annual grant to each qualified Free Will Baptist student.

The purpose of these grants is to assist Free Will Baptist students and their parents in meeting the rising cost of attending college. These grants will *replace* the "Church-College Grants" which required the student's home church to provide a matching grant. A study of the matching program revealed that approximately one-half of the Free Will Baptist students enrolled at Mount Olive were not benefiting from these grants because their churches were not participating.

To qualify for a grant, the student must be enrolled full-time (minimum of 12 semester hours), be a member of a church affiliated with the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, and be recommended for the grant by a vote of his home church. (Students from churches outside the State Convention but which support Mount Olive College will be considered on an individual basis.)

The Free Will Baptist grant will be in addition to other awards for which the student may qualify, but *under no circumstances will the College provide financial aid in excess of the cost of attending Mount Olive College.*

This news item is a preliminary announcement. Official guidelines, procedures and deadlines for qualifying will be provided by the Director of Financial Aid.

Free Will Baptist Scholarship Fund

To underwrite the cost of these grants, the College will

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establish the "Free Will Baptist Scholarship Fund." Specific gifts from churches, individuals and denominational organizations will be sought for this purpose.

Authorization for the new grant program was by unanimous vote of the Development and Public Relations Committee of the Board of Trustees on March 9.

RILEY ELECTED DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS

Mrs. Dianne Brown Riley, associate director of Admissions at Mount Olive College since 1973, has been elected Director of Admissions beginning with the 1983-84 academic year. She succeeds Mrs. Nancy Sampsell who has resigned due to the out-of-state employment of her husband.

Mrs. Riley graduated from MOC in 1967 and received her Bachelor of Science degree from Atlantic Christian College. Prior to joining the admissions staff of Mount Olive she taught in the public schools of North Carolina. During the 1982-83 academic year she has been on a professional leave of absence pursuing graduate study at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest.

A native of Johnston County, Mrs. Riley is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Treat Brown of Selma. She and her husband, Dennis Riley, reside at 412 Rockledge Road, New Bern. Both are active members of St. Mary's Church in New Bern.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Eldon Brock of Kinston, North Carolina, announces that he is available for full- or part-time pastoral work beginning July 1, 1983. He is in good standing with the Eastern Conference. He may be contacted by calling 527-6985 or 523-7155. His address is P.O. Box 3101, Kinston, NC 28501.

Endowment of the Week

L. B. MANNING SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

The Rev. Leonard Benjamin Manning

The Rev. Leonard Benjamin Manning was born in Winterville, North Carolina, on May 13, 1900. He was ordained to the ministry February 11, 1924. His church membership has been at King's Cross Roads Church since 1918.

There will be an appreciation dinner held at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, May 12, 1983, at Farmville Central High School, Farmville, North Carolina (U.S. Highway 264-A), in appreciation for 59 years of ministerial service to Original Free Will Baptists and the people of Eastern North Carolina.

The purpose of this dinner is to express appreciation to the Rev. L. B. Manning for his life of Christian service and to establish a scholarship in his name at Mount Olive College. All who make contributions to the Manning Endowment are invited to the dinner. No tickets are being sold.

Churches he has served include: Aspen Grove, Bethlehem, Beulaville, Core Creek, Daniels Chapel, Dawsons Grove, Edgewood, Friendship (Greene), Grimsley, Hickory Grove, King's Cross Roads, LaGrange, Marlboro, Maury, Pearsall's Chapel, Piney Grove (Beaufort), Sidney, Smyrna (Beaufort), Sound Side and Union Chapel (Washington).

His past positions and services include: President of the North Carolina State Convention, Moderator of the Central Conference, Chairman of the State Missions Board, Ordaining Council of the Central Conference, Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Board of Directors of the Church Finance Association, Inc., revivals in 77 churches, conducted more than 1,500 funerals and officiated 500 weddings.

THE L. B. MANNING SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

The Endowment will consist of contributions made to Mount Olive College in appreciation of the life and services of Mr. Manning. The principal of the fund will be invested with Church Finance Association and the earnings will be used to provide scholarships for worthy students, preferably those preparing for the ministry.

Name _____ Amount of Gift $ _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Church _____

Make check payable to "Mount Olive College" and give to the dinner chairman for your church or mail to Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365. Gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law.

For April 10

GOOD NEWS FOR FORMER ENEMIES

Lesson Text: Acts 11:2-18
Memory Verse: Acts 11:18

I. INTRODUCTION

Two unmarried sisters inherited the old family homestead when their parents died. They lived together in peace for several years, but one day they had a disagreement that soon led to a heated dispute. The dispute was so sharp that they refused to speak to each other, but even this barrier did not satisfy them. Through a third party they decided to build a dividing wall through the house. Each sister had her own separate bedroom already, but the living room, dining room, and kitchen were divided in half by a wall.

This created something of a problem in the kitchen because the pump was on one side of the wall and the cookstove was on the other. But even this serious inconvenience was not great enough to break down their stubborn pride and so they managed to get along. The sister with the stove walked several hundred feet to a neighbor's house for water while the sister with the pump cooked her meals on a little charcoal burner.

Then one day tragedy struck. One of the sisters had a stroke that left her paralyzed and speechless. She had no way of summoning help from her sister who was only a few feet away, though on the other side of the wall, and so in a few hours she died. The living sister, realizing that her stubbornness had contributed to her sister's death, was so conscience-stricken that within a few weeks she also died.

Prejudice and stubborn pride bear bitter fruit, yet many continue to harbor these feelings even when they suffer as much as the victims of their prejudice. The Christian Jews in Jerusalem certainly had strong feelings against all Gentiles, feelings that had festered across the years and had been intensified because they now had to bear the yoke of Gentile oppression. We ought not be surprised that they immediately questioned Peter's actions in baptizing the Gentile Cornelius and those of his household.

Yet we can rejoice that when they heard Peter's account of the situation and how his actions were authorized by the Holy Spirit they were willing to accept these Gentiles as Christian brothers. Had they done otherwise, Gentiles would have been sentenced to spiritual death, and their own spiritual death would have followed shortly.

Last week's lesson dealt with the conversion of Saul. After his conversion Saul began to preach in Damascus, but his preaching soon aroused opposition among the Jews and he was forced to leave the city. He then journeyed to Jerusalem where he was encouraged and supported by Barnabas. As in Damascus, Saul's preaching aroused opposition in Jerusalem and so the disciples sent him to Tarsus, his hometown.

Following these events, the record in the Book of Acts shifts from the activities of Saul to those of Peter. Peter traveled from Jerusalem to Lydda, and then to Joppa where he restored Dorcas to life. While there, he had a vision of a great sheet, with all kinds of unclean animals in it, being let down out of Heaven.

The purpose of this vision was to prepare Peter for the messengers from the Gentile Cornelius. When Peter accompanied them back to Caesarea, he had to overcome his prejudices in order to enter Cornelius' house. When it became obvious that God was opening the doors of salvation to Gentiles, Peter laid before Cornelius the good news. Cornelius, along with his household, responded to the gospel invitation and was baptized.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. This lesson about how the gospel came to be preached to the Gentiles is important. If the Gentiles had not been received into the church, it would have become another sect of the Jews like the Pharisees or the Sadducees. It is important for us that Peter did preach to the Gentiles.

B. When Peter arrived in Jerusalem from Caesarea the Jews had already heard that he had preached to the Gentiles and they faced and accused Peter of accepting into the church people that had not been circumcised. Even in Bible days when they did not have all the means of communication that we have today, the rumor mills were kept busy.

C. In looking at today's Scripture, it should be noted that even though Peter was accused and he felt that he was right, he did not lose his temper. Instead, he very calmly and methodically approached the matter and told in detail what had happened and how it happened. Calmness can save the situation in many a day.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. THE LESSON ILLUSTRATED

"Socialism," declared a street orator, "can put a new coat on a man!" A voice in the crowd cried out, "Jesus Christ can put a new man in the coat, and that is better still!"—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

Scripture Reading—Nehemiah 12, 13; Esther 1, 2

DIVERS DISEASES

The words "divers diseases" impressed an old black preacher forcibly, so he elucidated somewhat as follows: "Brethren, our doctors can scrutinize you, analyze you, and diagnose you, and can give you medicine that can cure you of rheumatism, diabetes, palsy, arthritis, and all kinds of stomach troubles, heart troubles, and liver troubles; but brethren, when you get the *divers,* you are in such bad shape that no doctor can cure you. Only the Lord is able to cure *the divers."*

I thought when I read the old preacher's statement that he spoke more to the point than he knew, for I noticed that "the divers" are becoming very common in our churches all over the country.

We see perhaps four hundred in Sunday school on Sunday morning. But when Sunday school is dismissed, about three-fourths or more make a *dive* for the door, and the pastor has one hundred, or not that many people, in the preaching service. This I believe is a fatal disease that will kill the spirituality of any church.

When this diving disease gets hold of folks, they hurry home from Sunday school, and many dive their noses into the Sunday newspaper. Others make a dive to the television to turn on their favorite program. As soon as lunch is over, many make a dive for the car and drive to some pleasure resort and spend the afternoon in Sunday desecration.

Yes, I believe with the old black preacher that "the divers" is a deadly disease, and only the Lord can cure it.

MONDAY, APRIL 11

Scripture Reading—Esther 3-6

WHAT A MINISTER OUGHT TO BE AND DO

F. B. Meyer, in estimating the work of the minister, remarked: "The first and best thing a pastor can do is to be a pastor. Let him do the spade work of visitation. Let him give himself to his ministry and prayer. If he wants to touch public life, let him do it through the men he educates.

I am more and more assured that it is not wise for us to enter into things that distract us from our study and our church. The time may come, when a man has done spade work in earlier life, that God will give him a wider service in the great annals of public life and thought. I do not think any man in beginning his ministry ought to be ambitious for public influence. Let him feel that the public influence of his later life comes through the careful pastoral work of his early life."

If preachers insist on competing with psychiatrists as counselors, with physicians as healers, with politicians as statesmen and with philosophers as speculators, then these specialists have every right to tell them how to preach. If a minister's message is not based on "Thus saith the Lord," then as a sermon it is good for nothing but to be cast out and trodden under foot of the specialists in the department with which it deals.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

Scripture Reading—Esther 7-10

PREACHERS PREACH!

It is surprising how stoutly and stubbornly the churches insist upon preachers knowing how to preach. They will forgive almost anything else, but they will not forgive inability to preach.

They have a wholesome reverence for learning, but they would rather have a man with no diploma who can preach than a man with two diplomas who cannot preach.

They believe in experience, and acknowledge its value; but they would rather have a man with no experience who can preach than a man with years of experience who has lost the gift of presenting truth in ways which lift and strengthen.

In all this, the churches may be stiffnecked and unreasonable, but it is a frame of mind which is not likely to be changed.

Men and women judge Christianity largely from sermons. If you make your sermons dull, then religion seems dull also.

Let the preacher clothe in fitting form the heavenly message entrusted to his lips!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

Scripture Reading—Job 1-9

RETREAT FROM THE MINISTRY

"I've resigned my pastorate," said a minister recently, "and have signed a contract to teach school this year so I can get something done for God." This may seem an astonishing statement coming from a pastor, but I for one

understand what he meant by it. As he later explained, he had become something of an office manager, a master of detail, an architect and a committee maneuverer; whereas, originally, he had been trained and commissioned to give himself to the Word, to prayer, to soul-winning, to Bible teaching and to visiting the sick and the lost.

"Sure," he admitted, "they let me preach on Sunday, but the real emphasis was usually on how I could organize, engineer, create publicity, and so forth." By returning to high school to teach in the chemistry labs, he believed now that he would have more time actually to witness and win souls to Christ. Surely, this is a sad commentary on twentieth-century evangelical church life, but it is representative of the feeling of many earnest ministers today.

It is high time spirit-filled pastors took the position affirmed by the twelve disciples who, torn by increasing demands, said, "It is not fit that we should forsake the word of God and minister to tables . . . . But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word" (Acts 6). Others were appointed to attend to material matters.

Did God vindicate and approve the stand taken by those disciples? The answer is found in the following words: "And the word of God increased, and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly."

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

Scripture Reading—Job 10-16

ONLY A HALF DOZEN!

Duncan Matheson was asked to address a meeting. Over a thousand Christians had gathered there to hear the Word. He read a portion of Scripture that had a wonderful message for Christians and began forthwith to open it up for their edification. But as he thought of poor, needy sinners, he turned to them instead and went on to fill the whole hour with a gospel message. At the close of the meeting one of the conveners came up to him and said: "Brother Matheson, it was really too bad. Here were a thousand Christians who came for some spiritual food, and you spent the entire hour preaching the gospel." "Oh," said he, "were there no unsaved ones there?" "There might have been half a dozen or so." With a twinkle in his eye, the old man replied in his Scottish way, "Oh, well, ye ken Christians, if they are Christians, will manage to wiggle awa' to Heaven some way, if they never learn any more truth, but poor sinners have got to be saved or be in Hell!"

Martin Luther's preaching aroused the church from a thousand years' slumber during the Dark Ages—the devil's millennium. Here's how. Luther said, "I preach as though Christ was crucified yesterday, rose from the dead today, and is coming back to earth again tomorrow!"

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

Scripture Reading—Job 17-23

I'M NOT MAD!

A gentleman and his wife, one Sabbath, going to church in Glasgow, met a friend who spoke to them and inquired where they were going. They said, "To hear Dr. Chalmers." He said, "What! to hear that mad man?" They said that if he would agree to go with them, after that, if he persisted in talking in such a manner of him, they would never dispute the matter with him again. He accompanied them; and, singular to relate, it happened that when Dr. Chalmers entered the pulpit that day, he gave out as his text, "I am not mad, most noble Festus; but speak forth the words of truth and soberness," and the friend from that day became a changed man—a convert to evangelical Christianity.

Peter, endued with power from on high, preached one sermon and three thousand were saved! Today we preach three thousand sermons and nothing much happens. "O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years" (Habakkuk 3:2).

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

Scripture Reading—Job 24-31

BLESSED ARE THE HUNGRY

What a joy it is to a teacher or a pastor to feed spiritually hungry folk who can say with the Psalmist: "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God" (Psalm 42:1, 2). How difficult it is to feed people who say: "I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing" (Revelation 3:17).

When our oldest daughter, Alice, was a baby, I often fed her with a spoon as she sat in a high chair. How easy it was to feed her when she was hungry, but how hard when she was not hungry! Often, when I raised the filled spoon toward her little mouth, she would turn her head so quickly that the spoon, with the baby food, landed in her ear instead of her mouth!

In Siberia, milk is often delivered in blocks rather than in bottles, the weather being so cold

(Continued on Page 18)

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

the stand I am formulating—but then again, I would not want everyone to; I am not perfect nor omniscient. I am not anxious for subscriptions to drop off—such occurrences have plagued us in the past. Of course, controversy has served to raise subscriptions too.

While thinking on this, feel free to write me a letter and let me know whether or not you feel such items should be editorialized; but do sign your letters. Also remember that I will not always agree with you either. (You know how it goes, people are told that they are welcome to say "Amen"—but when they do, they best not do so too loudly!) In this issue I have opened "my mailbox" to you. In so doing, I have tried to provide **both sides** of issues—and prefer doing so.

Well, my space is gone, so I must conclude. Let me do so by saying that you can be assured that at least forty-eight times a year, I must put on the whole armour of God—no distaste or sacrilege intended.

Janie

OPEN LETTER

(Continued from Page 5)

Through the President of the State Convention, the Rev. Gary M. Bailey, the ministers of the Free Will Baptist ranks have been invited to join the General Baptist brothers. The Rev. Mark Williams has stated, "We would be delighted if our Free Will Baptist brothers would join us. We desire to become better acquainted. We want to know each other and this will be a wonderful opportunity."

The only lodging available at Cragmont for Free Will Baptists will be the dorms. The main building and motel have been reserved for the guests. If anyone would be interested in attending this conference, please contact either the Rev. John Williams, manager of Cragmont, or the Rev. Gary Bailey. Advance notice of attendance is required to assure space.

Gary Bailey

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 10)

"Thank You" for your compassion for the lost and your support of this program through giving and praying. To God be the glory, great things He has done. If each of us remains faithful and obedient to our Lord, greater things shall be accomplished.

DIRECTOR: We will miss you and your family when you return to the Philippines. I have personally enjoyed working with you this year.

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 12)

will qualify for monies at the rate of $5 per child per day if we have a day care center. According to the license bureau and the rules and regulations of monies distributed by the North Carolina legislature, we cannot expect to be allocated a great deal of Grant-in-Aid money until after July, 1984.

E. Howard Cayton
Executive Director

The board of directors of the Children's Home has appointed a committee to respond to questions our people have concerning the Home's having signed compliance. You may address your questions directly to these committee members.

Rebecca Davenport
Route 1, Box 62
Winterville, North Carolina 28590
756-3014

James Cahoon
P.O. Box 125
Columbia, North Carolina 27925
796-1412

Doug Skinner
Box 117
Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510
249-1484

You may also address your questions to any other board member.

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

(Continued from Page 17)

that the milk freezes before it reaches the customers. Sometimes "the sincere milk of the word" is delivered in the same state and calloused, frigid hearts are unmoved and unchanged. Oh, for more burning, burdened hearts among us!

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 9)

On Monday, April 4, the Young Women's Circle sponsored an egg hunt and wiener roast for the little folks at the church.

St. Mary's will be observing Teacher Appreciation Week April 11-15. On Saturday, April 16, the Sunday school will sponsor a pig picking for the entire church family. Then on Sunday, April 17, everyone will be present, hopefully with a visitor, for Loyalty Sunday. It is hoped to have 150 for Sunday school.

Revival Services in Progress At St. Paul Church

Revival services are in progress through this week, at St. Paul Church, Elizabeth City, with the Rev. John Frame from Wharton, West Virginia, as evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The pastor, the Rev. Joe Griffith, and the congregation, extend an invitation to the remaining services.

Revival Services at King's Cross Roads Church

Revival services will be held at King's Cross Roads Church, Route 1, Fountain, during the week of April 10-15. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The

Rev. Charles Crisp is the evangelist. There will be special music each evening. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Bruce Jones. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Home Missions

STONEY CREEK CHURCH RECEIVES KEY OF EXCELLENCE

On Sunday, February 13, 1983, the Home Missions Director, Charles Crisp, presented the "Key of Excellence" plaque to the Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, near Goldsboro. This plaque is presented to churches who contribute $1200 or more per year to Home Missions. The Stoney Creek Church is to be congratulated for its outstanding support during this church year. The Rev. Gary Bailey is pastor of this great church. The Stoney Creek Church is a loyal supporter of all denominational enterprises. In addition to their regular budget, the Stoney Creek Church had a special "Home Missions Sunday" and all the morning offering went to Home Missions. Thank God for churches like this.

NEW MISSION PASTOR FOR WILMINGTON

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilmington has undergone some trying times. It has been split in efforts to take its independence and in efforts to take the National route.

In November, 1982, the members turned the work over to the Home Missions Board. The services of the Rev. D. C. Hansley have been acquired and he will serve as pastor. Brother Hansley brings his experience and ability to a work that needs a strong preacher, educator, and public relations man. We feel we are very fortunate to have the services of this servant of God. Pray for him and the work at Wilmington.

Christian Cadet Conference

CAMPING NEWS

Greetings:

The staff members are excited about the events for this oncoming Christian Cadet Conference (June 20-25). The theme will be "The Kingdom of God First." Many activities have been planned for this year. We know you will want to invite your friends and the members of your youth groups to share the camping experience of the Christian Cadet Conference.

Due to the increase in interest and participation in the camping program we want to encourage our campers to get their applications in as soon as possible. We can only serve a limited number of campers and this will be done on a first come—first served basis. No application will be taken after April 25. But we expect to fill up before this date. To ensure your place at camp you *must* respond quickly.

The cost of camp this year will be $70 and a $7 activity fee, total cost $77. Letters of information will be sent from the Director on June 1, informing you on what you will need to carry to camp and where you will meet the bus.

Registration fee is $15 and should be sent with your application to: Bobby R. Taylor, Route 2, Box 40-A, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557. If you wish to pay in-full this is fine. Please make your check to the Christian Cadet Conference.

.....

Psalm 121:1 "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills . . . ."

APPLICATION

AGES—8 up

Date _____

Name of Camper _____

Address _____

City or Town _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Age _____ Height _____ Sex _____

Birthday _____ Grade Completed _____

Church _____

Pastor's Name _____

Pastor's Address _____

Please make check payable to Christian Cadet Conference.

Send Application to:

Bobby R. Taylor, Director
Route 2, Box 40-A
Middlesex, NC 27557

Christian Cadet Conference
June 20-25
Registration Fee $15
Balance due upon boarding bus $62

Date Received _____

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Incorporated under the Laws of the State of North Carolina

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that _____

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WITNESS the corporate seal of the corporation and the signature of its duly authorized officers affixed this _____ day of _____, 19_____.

_____ President

_____ Secretary

(SEAL)

Upon proper motion on September 12, 1982, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. voted to offer memberships for sale at the cost of $100 each. Certificates of membership cannot be issued to individual natural persons. Membership is limited to organizations of the Free Will Baptist denomination as follows: churches, union meetings, quarterly district meetings, conferences, conventions, other organizations recognized and sponsored by the Free Will Baptist denomination and such other denominational groups or organizations within the framework of the Free Will Baptist denomination as may be approved by the Board of Directors. Any group desiring membership, according to the Charter, should make application with the cost of membership to the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

The application below can be used for this purpose; mail it, with $100 per desired certificate, to the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513-0158.

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The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Harold Lambert

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April 13, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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Editorial

"Yea, Though I Walk . . ."

Charlotte Adkins was once a beauty queen. But for years she lay on her back, paralyzed with arthritis. The body that once was heralded because of its beauty had shriveled away until there was only a tiny, bent frame covered with thin, pale skin. Lying on her Vero Beach bed, her muscles twitched involuntarily; her eyes looked straight up; but a wide smile spread across her face. What did Charlotte have to smile about?

Joe Synder lived in Greenwood, South Carolina. As is true with most good mechanics, Joe was never seen without grease under his fingernails. But at the young age of forty-two, he was struck down with lung cancer. The day before he died, Joe said, "If He just wants me to lie here and groan, then I'll groan to the glory of God." These words were spoken quite sincerely—and slowly—while he gasped desperately for breath. What did Joe have to praise God about?

Roy Matthis was a cattle buyer. While he was mowing his lawn one afternoon, his three-year-old daughter knocked over a jar of gasoline in the utility room. Suddenly there was an explosion and most of the young girl's skin was burned off. Roy beat the flames out with his hands, and then spent the next week with her in the hospital, as he watched her life slip away. An hour before she died, he was seen riding the hospital elevator, whistling all the while. What did he have to whistle about—even his hands were bandaged?

A. D. Croft was a blind preacher who pastored four rural churches in the hills of South Carolina. Because of his impairment, his wife had to drive him everywhere he went. The one characteristic for which he is remembered—that which everyone identifies with him is his "hearty, belly" laugh. (He's also known for always saying, "I'll be seeing you!") What does such an individual have to laugh about?

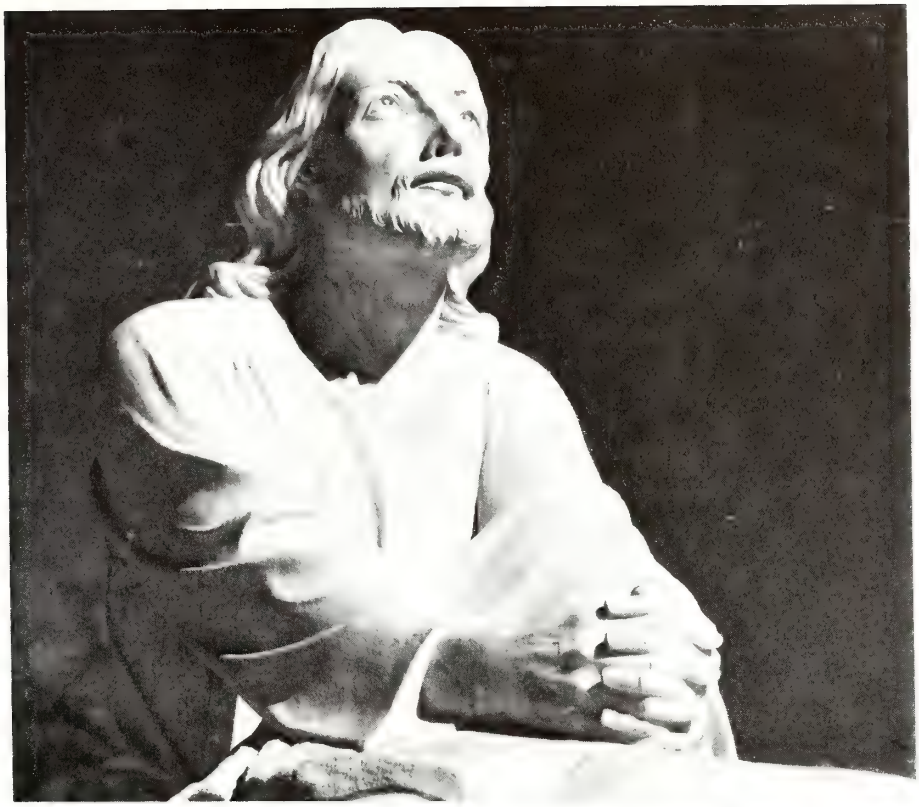
A Protestant chaplain told of walking through a rice paddy with a South Vietnamese soldier. Suddenly the soldier stepped on a land mine—and both of his legs were blown off at the hips. The chaplain cradled the young man's head in his lap while the lifeblood pumped out of his body and into the muddy water nearby. It was just a matter of a few minutes before he would be gone. There was no way to communicate for neither spoke the other's language. Then the chaplain remembered a phrase from an ancient Latin liturgy. Looking down at the ashen face of the dying young man he said, "Sursum corda" (*Lift up your heart*). A surprised look of recognition came upon the soldier's face; then he gave the congregation's response, "Regem habemas" (*We lift them up unto the Lord*).

That's the one thing that Charlotte Adkins, Joe Synder, Roy Matthis, A. D. Croft, and the soldier had in common—they all had a Lord to whom they could lift their hearts.

When the blackness of pain, grief, or trouble wraps itself around our lives—when it seems that all hope has gone and nothing remains but despair—we can open our hearts. Then we can lift up our hearts, for before us is an open tomb; and we have a risen Lord.

Our King lives.

And His name is Jesus.



REVIVAL IN OUR CHURCH

by the Rev. A. B. Bryan

I am convinced that the only way to have a revival in our church is for all of us to get involved with enthusiasm which will not quit. When this takes place, it will follow that revival will come.

The great danger to any church is to think organizational framework is not necessary. We need to be organized and each one of us get down to business, see the need and accept our part for revival.

The sin of so many church people (ours included) is ceasing to pray for each other. First Samuel 12:22, 23, says, ". . . it hath pleased the LORD to make you his people. Moreover, as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you."

This church stands as a monument upon the whole truths of the Bible. We do not seek to suppress nor hide anything the Word says or teaches. We have no apologies for teaching what our church believes. So it is not from this standpoint that revival could be hindered. Our people must be convinced, stand upon it and be convinced that it takes God's Word and His presence to bring about revival. Are we prepared for revival?

Samuel said (Verse 23) ". . . but I will teach you the good and right way." Let this be done and neither Heaven nor Hell can stop revival. Souls are too precious for our church and its workers to go about the task in a careless way. We may ask, May I do something for the Lord? The answer is Yes! The field is wide open. Those faces that appear in church and Sunday school each Sunday are the opportunity at hand. We know who they are and where they are. The people we face each week in our everyday activities are our prospects. Many of them have no committed responsibility other than just wandering with no goal of Christian service. This is the field. God expects each one of us to take hope to them.

The job of selling them on getting in the church and our teaching them how to live a victorious life is our task. The Book is ours. We have it at our disposal. We must prepare and be prepared to teach it with thundering power. Revive us, O God! so we may.

The task of stewardship is ours. When, and if people come through our church and Sunday school and we have not taught them and influenced them in proper stewardship, who is to blame? If God could say one

(Turn the Page)

word to us He may have not said lately He would possibly say, "I am depending upon, and trusting people who are getting the job done in every area." Do we not want Him to say this of us and trust us with His very best? God, let us listen with action and let you speak.

To have revival people must have or take on a keen desire to stand with the Lord in reaching out to those who need help. We all get our spiritual insight and inspiration from the Lord. God alone gives the needs in our lives. We must seek Him. What it takes for the minister to stay fit for His service, and any other dedicated worker, it takes some of it for each Christian to be prepared for proper service. The Word (1 Samuel 12:24) is specific, "Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart, for consider how great things he hath done for you."

Several important questions I have asked myself over and over again are: Do I deserve a church to pastor? Is progress being made because of my steadfast efforts? Are we reaching people who need our help? Is God honoring my service with blessings to others? Each Christian should ask himself similar questions about his or her church relationship. He/she should then possibly ask, Is my service to God and my church constructive and constantly rewarded by progress?

Church progress and enlarging the kingdom with souls rests upon each of our shoulders. Every one of us should see the need of accepting our part of the responsibility for revival. Expect revival and it will be here in full bloom. People are looking our way. Revival needs to sweep our church clean. We need to fill the gap, ". . . For then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success" (Joshua 1:8).

Cragmont

CRAGMONT SUMMER CONFERENCE SCHEDULE 1983

General Youth Conference I Harry Grubbs, Director Rick Watson, Registrar Route 2, Box 607 Wilson, NC 27893	June 13-18
Christian Cadet Conference Bobby Taylor, Director Route 2, Box 48 Middlesex, NC 27557	June 20-25
Youth Frontier Conference—YFA Scott and Janie Sowers, Directors Route 1, Box 106-B Farmville, NC 27828	June 27—July 2
Youth Frontier Conference—AFC Doug Skinner, Director P.O. Box 117 Arapahoe, NC 28510	July 4-9
General Youth Conference II Frank Grubbs, Director Route 1, Box 69 Chinquapin, NC 28521	July 11-16
Ministers' Conference De Wayne Eakes, President Doug Skinner, Secretary P.O. Box 117 Arapahoe, NC 28510	July 18-23
Young Peoples Bible Conference James Gurganus, Director Route 3, Box 64 Newport, NC 28570	July 25-30
Woman's Auxiliary Conference I Dola Dudley, Director 529-A South Fifth Street Smithfield, NC 27577	August 1-6
Woman's Auxiliary Conference II Dola Dudley, Director 529-A South Fifth Street Smithfield, NC 27577	August 8-13

FESTIVAL OF GOSPEL MUSIC TO BE PRESENTED

The New Life Singers, Wilson

The North Carolina Free Will Baptist Layman's League Convention cordially invites everyone to attend a Festival of Gospel Music, at Eagle's Nest, Mount Olive, on Saturday, April 30, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be catered by Wilber's of Goldsboro at $3.75 per plate. Program participants include: The Collie Singers, Nashville; The Hopper Brothers and Connie, Madison; The Watchmen, Goldsboro; The Hall Sisters; The Down East Boys, Potter's Hill; The New Creations, Mount Olive College; The New Life Singers, Wilson; and The Sentinels, Durham.

Free Spirit Announces Upcoming Events

Free Spirit Church, Wilson, announces that on April 24, at 7 p.m. church services, The Oak Grove Boys of Elm City, will be bringing the message in song and also will kick off the spring revival April 25-29. The speaker will be the Rev. Roger Baker of Calvary Church in Kenansville. Services will start with the prayer room opening at 7:15 p.m. and worship services beginning at 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each night.

Following the revival on Sunday, May 1, the New Life Singers of Daniels Chapel Church will be at the 7 p.m. worship services. The pastor of Free Spirit is Wayne Whitley of Elm City. Everyone is encouraged to attend these services.

Shiloh Church Gets New Pastor

Shiloh Church, Pinetown, is proud to announce that they now have a new pastor, the Rev. Bobby Brown. The community is pleased to welcome Mr. Brown and his fine wife, Betsy, and their family, into the area. It is hoped their stay will be an enjoyable one.

Faith Church to Have Spring Revival

Faith Church is having its spring revival. The pastor, the Rev. Roger C. Heath, welcomes everyone to attend these services. The evangelist will be the Rev. Ransom McAbee from Sandy Plain Church of Beulaville. There will be special singing each night. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The dates for the services are April 18-22.

The church is located on Old Highway 74 and 76 across from the Leland Post Office.

Revival Services to Be Held at Ayden Church

Revival services will be held at Ayden Church, Ayden, April 18-22. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Floyd Cherry will be the evangelist. There will be special singing each night. The pastor, the Rev. David Ricks, and the congregation extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend these services.

Youth Revival Held at Rose of Sharon Church

During the week of March 7-12 the youth of Rose of Sharon Church held their spring youth revival. The YFA and AFC had the responsibility of leading the services and taking care of the duties which occur during the worship services. The AFC presented special music before each service and the Youth Crusaders presented the special music on Thursday night. The Youth Crusaders are a group of young-people from the church. Although the revival was called a Youth Revival, it was for all ages.

The speaker for the week was the Rev. Gary Bailey, who brought a blessing each night with his messages. There were 7 people saved during the revival and many others rededicated their lives to God.

On Sunday, March 13, the youth held their Youth Sunday to complete the Youth Week Activities. Each of the Sunday school classes was taught by a young person, and several spoke during the morning worship service.

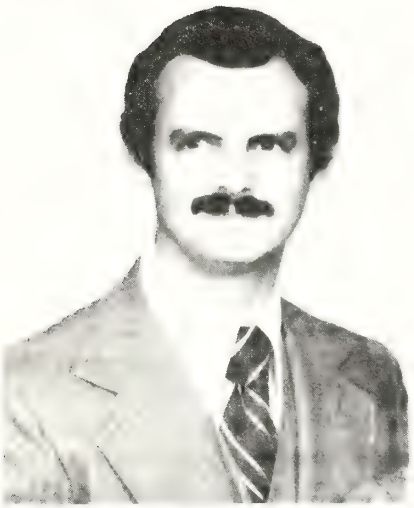
Thanks go to Mr. Bailey for coming home to hold the revival, as well as Alan and Sandra Moore, E. D. and Nellie Harrison, the YFA and AFC youth sponsors for helping the

(Turn the Page)

youth with the duties during the revival and Youth Sunday.

In the opening of the Sunday morning service, the Rev. Reb Lancaster, pastor, stated that it was wonderful to see the cooperation of all who attended each of the services during the week and that God surely was pleased with the increase of His Church.

Pastor Appreciation Day Held at Greenville



The Rev. Harry Grubbs

A surprise "Pastor Appreciation Day" was given the Rev. Harry Grubbs in honor of his third anniversary at First Church in Greenville, on Sunday, March 6.

Included in this special service was Harry's wife, Doris, their children Gina and Jody, and his mother, Mrs. Lillian Grubbs.

Several members of the church spoke expressing their appreciation and love for Harry and his family for their timely efforts on behalf of the members of First Church during the past three years. We look forward to their continued work for many years to come.

The climax of the service came when all present joined hands and sang "Blest Be the Tie." A dutch luncheon was enjoyed by many of these present at the Western Sizzlin'.

Spring Revival to Be at Spring Hope Church

Spring revival services will be held at Spring Hope Church, Route 5, New Bern, Aurora Road 1600, April 18-22. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Prayer rooms open at 7:15 p.m. The Rev. Ray Wells will be the guest evangelist. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Charles Richardson. Everyone is invited to attend these services. There will be special singing each night.

Northeast Church Hosting Missions Conference

Northeast Church, Route 5, Mount Olive, will be hosting a Missions Conference on April 19-21, 1983, with services beginning at 7:30 nightly. Special music will be featured each evening and there will be a fellowship after the Wednesday evening service.

The speakers for the conference are as follows: Tuesday evening, the Rev. Harold Jones, director of Foreign Missions; Wednesday evening, the Rev. W. S. Burns, home missionary, and the Rev. Fred Baker, foreign missionary to the Philippines; Thursday evening, the Rev. Charles Crisp, director of Home Missions.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend these services.

Ordaining Council to Meet

The Ordaining Council of the Eastern Conference will meet on Monday, April 18, 1983, at the Kinston Bible and Bookstore, Kinston, North Carolina. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m.; and anyone interested in meeting with the council should be there at that time.

—Francis Garner

TWENTY-THREE NEW MEMBERSHIPS PURCHASED IN MARCH 1983

	Number of Memberships
King's Cross Roads Layman's League, Falkland, North Carolina	2
Layman's League of Central Conference, Snow Hill, North Carolina	1
Haymount Free Will Baptist Mission, Fayetteville, North Carolina	1
Aspen Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Fountain, North Carolina	2
Aspen Grove Woman's Auxiliary, Fountain, North Carolina	1
Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, North Carolina	2
Walnut Creek Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange, North Carolina	1
Riverside Ladies Auxiliary, Princeton, North Carolina	1
Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Elm City, North Carolina	1
Ayden Free Will Baptist Layman's League, Ayden, North Carolina	1
Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, North Carolina	5
Saint's Delight Free Will Baptist Church, Bridgeton, North Carolina	1
Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Belvoir, North Carolina	4
Total	23

Free Will Baptists are continuing to respond to our membership drive. Total memberships purchased so far have reached forty-nine (49). Thanks to those who are responding. We ask for everyone who has not purchased new memberships with us to please do so; cost is $100 per membership. This revenue is helping us to gain needed capital and it helps relieve us of the burden of past-due debts, plus giving you more voice in the membership meeting. There has been much improvement in the financial conditions of the Press in the past few months. We believe that through your prayers, concern, and financial support, the Press will soon be operating on a good, sound financial basis. Certificates of your membership will be mailed to you as soon as they are approved by our Board of Directors.

Thanks again for responding so favorably.

Jack Mayo
Financial Director
Free Will Baptist Press

MARSH SWAMP SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPORTS HOME MISSIONS

The Rev. Ray Wells and Roney Bunn Jr., Sunday school superintendent.

The primary Sunday school class at Marsh Swamp Church, Sims, was the first of eight Sunday school classes to pledge support to Home Missions for one year. These eight classes, the Layman's League and individuals have accepted the challenge of the Keys to Growth program of the Home Missions department. These organizations and individuals have pledged $100 per month to the support of Home Missions.

Front row: Janna Nichols, Sandy Bunn; second row: Heather Fulghum, Joanna Etheridge, third row: Ken Nichols, Suzanne Fulghum, Kristie Lamm, Chris Sharp, Daniel Wells, and Roy McNeely. Teachers: Mrs. Mildred Boswell and Mrs. Ann Johnson.

As pastor I am pleased with the response of our Sunday school and the concern that is being shown for the spreading of the gospel in our own state and nation. The combined efforts of these organizations and individuals have illustrated through practice the Scripture in Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." It is the prayer of the people of Marsh Swamp that all churches and Sunday schools will get involved in our Home Missions work. Perhaps your Sunday school class could pledge $10 a month to Home Missions. It can be done because our Sunday school is doing it. IS YOURS?

Ray Wells
Pastor of Marsh Swamp Church

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

If you have searched for resources on Christian education with college students, you most likely ended up very frustrated. The fact of the matter is that this area of ministry has not received nearly the attention it deserves. One person who is doing significant research and writing in this area is Robert Gribbon, ordained in the Episcopal Church. He has had extensive experience in college student and young adult ministries. He has written a book entitled *Students, Churches, and Higher Education: Congregational Ministry in a Learning Society.* It was published in 1981 by Judson Press. Gribbon explores the possibilities for ministry by the Church in higher education programs. This includes the college or university along with the expanding community college movement. Gribbon suggests some exciting ministry possibilities for the local church with students in these various higher education programs. He gives practical suggestions for establishing such ministries. Also, he informs us of what other people and churches are doing in this area. Perhaps most helpful of all is his section aimed at helping us understand young college students, especially their characteristics and needs. He even includes a background study on the increasing number of older students who are going back to school. Of special interest is his treatment of the relationship between college students and the home church, and the role of the church in a university town or near a community college. Helpful exercises are provided at the end of each chapter for the purpose of bringing the situation of your particular church to bear on these important ministries.

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1982 PARTS WITH GREAT BLESSINGS!

Marriage of William with Usha in our chapel on October 4, 1982.

Even though the year 1982 was full of hectic activities for the Free Will Baptist Church in India, it was not free from various problems which had to be faced to ensure achievements. As a matter of fact the Christian community in Northern India is in utter minority which too is divided among many denominations. The established denominational churches functioning centuries and decades ago maintain their superiority and do not embrace small church organizations as their counterparts. It would not be out of place to say that since they have become ice cold in Christian love and concern they feel aggrieved of other church denominations coming up with dedication and commitment and they would go to any length to damage such organizations. These facts are mainly responsible that the Christian community in this part of the country is neither recognized by the government nor by the majority community, and as such is open to criticism and harrassment. There is nothing else than the severe persecution which alone can bind the whole Christian community in one chain of love and the time is not too far.

The Free Will Baptist Church in India is pioneering in the field of evangelism and is called the living and witnessing church. The growth of the church in such a short span of time is remarkable. It is the only existing church in the rural parts where 82% of the total population of India lives. The church is sponsoring ten elementary schools of more than one thousand enrollment. Our congregations are predominantly backward and much has to be done to make them real worthy witnesses. It entails a lot of work among them involving time beyond schedules. It is also hard to understand the working with them who come from twenty-five major religious groups, sixteen thousand Ethno cultural and linguistic backgrounds and are among the four hundred thirty-three million illiterates in India. It is funny that each of our twenty-two congregations in the rural have a peculiar nature and culture as well.

Our congregations made better progress in the year under report than was expected and the response to share the work of the Lord was indeed beyond imagination; 324 souls were saved. The Word was preached to about thirteen thousand people; 227 children were dedicated. One hundred forty-eight Bibles, six hundred New Testaments and about eight thousand handbills of Good News obtained from the Bible Society of India were handed out. During the evangelistic campaign in the month of June an area of three hundred miles was covered where the Word of God was preached. Nine marriages were solomenized in Christian rituals among our congregations. The Rev. Harold Jones, the director-treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions from North Carolina was also a witness in one of the marriages on October 4, 1982. Over one thousand small boys and girls were taught in our schools and were promoted to higher classes. All

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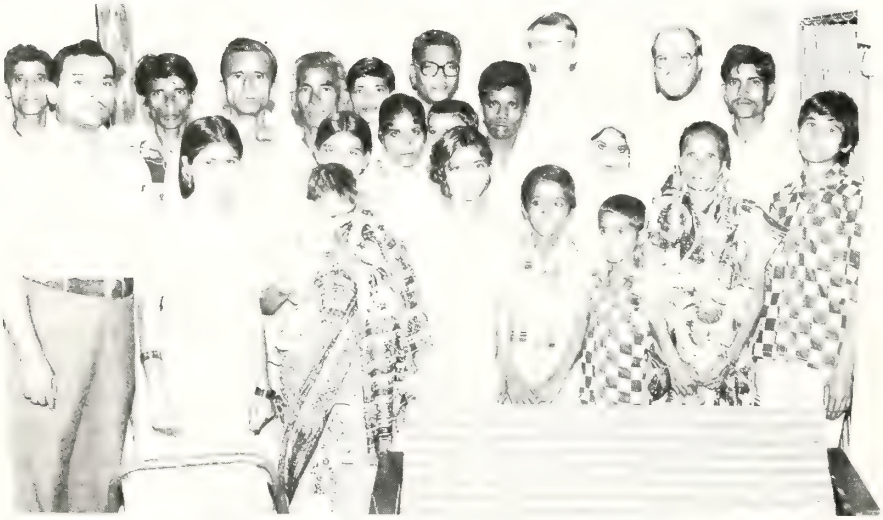

Marriage group—bride and bridegroom on both sides of the Rev. Harold Jones.

TEENAGE WORKSHOP
"LEARNING ABOUT OURSELVES . . ."

Miss Karen Yerby, a graduate student at East Carolina University, is conducting a workshop with some of the older children on campus. The workshop is on our "personal identity and goal-setting." There are 8 teenagers participating in this workshop. The children were amazed at how much they learned about themselves in just one night! They really enjoyed it and are looking forward to Miss Yerby's returning again next week.

Susan Dalton

IN-SERVICE TRAINING

Mrs. Jan Kidd

Continual education is a vital part of the child care services. Last February 24, the Houseparent and Child Care Staff began taking an In-Service Training Program entitled "STEP (Systematic Training for Effective Parenting)." The program is being taught by Mrs. Jan Kidd, M.ED., who operates NEW DIRECTION Learning Resource Center in Wilson, North Carolina.

This training has already been a valuable tool to the staff in working with the children. We are excited about this training and knowing we will be better child care workers. Some of the topics covered in the program are: "Understanding Children's Behavior and Misbehavior"; "Understanding More About Your Child and About Yourself as a Parent"; "Encouragement"; "Communication, Family Meetings"; "Developing Confidence and Using Your Potential"; etc.

We wanted to share this information with you, to let you know that the ministry at the Home is providing the best quality child care.

Your church in its ministry might want to use this program. The course is designed for individual parents, but can be adapted to many different situations.

Please continue to remember the children and staff daily in your prayers.

Bobby R. Taylor

BAKER FAMILY VISITS THE CHILDREN'S HOME

Insight and inspiration were received by all of us at the Children's Home when Fred, Linda, Kim, and Stevie Baker shared with us about their lives in the Philippines.

March 21, 1983, proved to be a very interesting Sunday afternoon as the Baker family shared with us their love through song and information. Fred and Linda explained what their daily routine is like in another culture and the entire family sang for us in the Filipino language. An opportunity was also given to ask questions.

After the service, refreshments were served by the Memorial Chapel Woman's Auxiliary who sponsored the service.

Thank you Fred, Linda, Kim and Stevie for visiting with us. Our visitors from Friendship Church, the children, staff and the retirees enjoyed the service and found it to be very informative.

Audrey Taylor
Program Chairman
Memorial Chapel Woman's Auxiliary

Endowment of the Week

THE LANGSTON-EDWARDS FAMILY ENDOWMENT

President W. Burkette Raper of Mount Olive College; the Rev. C. L. Patrick, pastor of Bethany Church; members of the May Family: George N. May of Portsmouth, Virginia, Mrs. Clarissa May of Winterville, and Eileen May of Raleigh. (George and Eileen are two of the four children of Mrs. Clarissa May.) Not present were William S. May of Marietta, Georgia, and Susan May of Reston, Virginia.

The Langston-Edwards Family Endowment Fund at Mount Olive College was established by Mrs. Clarissa Edwards May of Winterville, North Carolina, as a living memorial to her mother, Eva Langston Edwards, and her grandmother, Clarissa McGlohon Langston.

Income from the Endowment is assigned for use in the Department of Music with priority given to providing voice scholarships. The current endowment will provide an annual income of $500.

Clarissa Rebecca McGlohon Langston

Clarissa Rebecca McGlohon Langston (1866–1917)

Mrs. Langston was the daughter of Lewis and Martha Ann (Patsy) McGlohon and the wife of Charles Henry Langston. As an active member of Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church, she was a Sunday school teacher and organizer-treasurer of the "Poor Fund," which served as the benevolent arm of the church. The fund still functions today as the "Clarissa Langston Love Fund." Her granddaughter, Rebecca Edwards Davenport, is now treasurer.

Eva Langston Edwards (1889-1954)

Mrs. Edwards was the daughter of Charles Henry and Clarissa Rebecca McGlohon Langston and the wife of George N. Edwards.

Eva Langston Edwards

Following the example of her mother, who helped organize the Sunday school of Bethany Church, Mrs. Edwards herself was a long time Sunday school teacher. The Young Adult Class at Bethany is known as the "Eva Edwards Class" and a classroom is dedicated to her memory. The Free Will Baptist Children's Home and an opportunity for higher education for the children living there were among her special interests.

A commemorative service for Mrs. Langston and Mrs. Edwards was held at Bethany Church in Pitt County on March 20, at which time the Endowment was announced. Participants in the service included the Rev. C. L. Patrick, pastor of the church; President W. Burkette Raper of Mount Olive College; and the three living children of Mrs. Edwards: Mrs. Elwood C. Davenport of Winterville, who gave a memorial tribute to her grandmother Langston; Mrs. Norman D. Savage of Raleigh, who gave a tribute to her mother (Mrs. Edwards); and Mrs. Clarissa May, who sang "The Holy City" and presented the Endowment.

On behalf of Bethany Church, Mrs. Jack J. Dail accepted portraits of Mrs. Langston and Mrs. Edwards which were presented by the family.

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For April 17

MISSIONARIES ON THE MOVE

Lesson Text: Acts 13:1-3; 14:8-18
Memory Verse: Acts 13:47

I. INTRODUCTION

In the Middle Ages people who belonged to a particular trade or profession often formed guilds to protect or promote their interests. A rather unusual guild was formed in the twelfth century called the "Bridge Building Brothers." It was finally given official approval by Pope Clement III in 1191.

The purpose of this guild, which included noblemen, clergymen, and artisans, was to build bridges over streams and dangerous chasms, to clear roads of boulders and trees, and to build new roads to cut through wild and untraveled areas.

In a sense, that was the kind of a guild to which Barnabas and Saul belonged. They had committed themselves to building bridges to the Gentiles. They sought to clear the roads of the Roman world of the barriers placed there by prejudice and to build new roads into the heart of paganism.

In last week's lesson we found Peter explaining to some of his critics in the church at Jerusalem his actions in preaching to and baptizing Cornelius and his household. Following this, Herod the king, who was Herod Agrippa I, the grandson of Herod the Great, struck out at the church, putting James to death and imprisoning Peter. But before Peter was brought to trial, an angel intervened to release him. Then God, to punish Herod, struck down the arrogant king with a fatal illness.

At this point, Luke turns his attention from Peter and the Jerusalem church to Barnabas and Saul and the church at Antioch. For the remainder of the Book of Acts, Saul, soon to become Paul, occupies the center of the stage. When the thirteenth chapter opens, Barnabas and Saul have just returned from Jerusalem where they had gone to carry relief funds from Antioch.

Had Barnabas and Paul been lacking in principles or conviction, they might very well have succumbed to the temptation to accept the worship of men. We may be inclined to rejoice that this is at least one temptation we do not have to face today. Yet, as a matter of fact, many persons do have to face it. Admittedly it comes in differing forms. It is not likely that anyone will be mistaken for Zeus or Hermes today. Yet the temptation to accept the adoration of people is just as real now as then.

Some persons, by virtue of their talent and dedication, rise to positions of leadership. They gain the love and respect of their followers, a love that may at times almost become worship. This kind of treatment can subtly tempt all but the most alert and resolute of leaders. We have the recent example of Jim Jones as an illustration of just how far a man may go when he succumbs to this kind of temptation.

But such attitudes need not go to this extreme in order to be dangerous. A minister, an elder, a Sunday school teacher may be so respected that he comes to believe that he alone has the truth, that to oppose him is to oppose the truth. When we are so tempted, may we have the wisdom and courage to say with Paul, "Why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you."—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. It is obvious even to the casual reader that Chapter 13 of the Book of Acts begins a new section of the book. The center of activity changes from Jerusalem to Antioch, and the main character changes from the Apostle Peter to the Apostle Paul.

B. Why did the scene change from Jerusalem to Antioch? In the early chapters of Acts, the growth of the Jerusalem church is phenomenal, but they seem to drop out of the picture. It appears that they were great witnesses for the Lord at home, but had no plans to move out further with the gospel. God allowed persecution to come in order to force them to move out. Thus the gospel was spread and other churches were organized.

C. In the history of the church, Barnabas and Paul were the first two missionaries to be sent from the church to foreign soil. Note carefully how much the Holy Spirit had to do with this. He selected the missionaries, He led the church in their preparation by ordination, He empowered the missionaries for their work, and He led them. Apart from the Holy Spirit there can be no missionary service.

D. A careful study of this first missionary journey of Paul will show that everywhere they went they either experienced a revival or had to flee for their lives. The gospel is the "dynamite" of God; whenever and wherever it is preached something happens.

E. It is interesting to observe that on this journey, they had various reactions. Some believed and were saved and some became belligerent and drove them out. One of the greatest divisive factors in the world is the gospel of Jesus.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

Scripture Reading—Job 32-38

CHURCH BABIES

When I was a boy, two lines of a popular song ran thus:

"Everybody loves a baby,
That's why I'm in love with you!"

Everybody does love a baby. What is sweeter than a little baby?

How cute are baby monkeys, baby alligators, baby bullfrogs, baby elephants!

There is one variety of babies, however, whom we deplore—*church babies!* Some of them have been church members for decades. What a problem they are! Paul said something about them 2000 years ago: "I . . . speak . . . unto you . . . as unto babes in Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:1).

Church babies cry for attention. They keep the pastor awake at night. Quarreling church babies can give a pastor ulcers and insomnia. Like babies, they are fussy—largely to attract attention to themselves. They like to be petted and pampered. They would like to be wheeled into glory in a perambulator!

The pastor is not a nursemaid. As a good minister of Jesus Christ, he is to give himself impartially to all the people.

The wise pastor will lose no time pampering church babies who refuse to doff their swaddling clothes and "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).

MONDAY, APRIL 18

Scripture Reading—Job 39-42; Psalm 1-7

GETTING A FAVORABLE VERDICT

A brilliant and successful lawyer said: "When I was at the bar, I used to take it for granted, when I had before me a jury of respectable men, that I should have to repeat my main position about as many times as there were persons in the jury box. I learned that unless I illustrated and repeated and turned the main points over—the main points of law and evidence—I should lose my case. Our object in addressing a jury is to get their minds settled before they leave the jury box; not to make a speech in language but partially understood by them; not to display our oratory, and then let them go. We are set on getting a verdict. Hence we are set upon being understood."

Tell me the story slowly,
That I may take it in—
That wonderful redemption,
God's remedy for sin.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

Scripture Reading—Psalm 8-18

READY O'ER SOULS TO YEARN!

One day David Garrick, the great Shakespearean actor, was going down a street. He came upon a group of people who were listening intently to a man who was pleading earnestly for souls. "I stood on the fringes of the crowd, but soon I found myself elbowing my way in," said Garrick. The man that preached was George Whitefield. As he preached Christ, tears welled in his eyes which were severely crossed. He had already preached five times in the streets that day. "Sir," said a woman in the group, "I have followed you since you preached this morning at seven o'clock, and have heard you five times in the streets of this city. Why do you weep so as you preach?" "Before Whitefield could reply, Garrick said, "I listened to George Whitefield, and I have seen his passion and earnestness. I know that he believes that men without Christ will die in their sins and be lost." When Whitefield came to the place where he could say nothing more, he lifted up his mighty arms and would yearningly say, "Oh!" Garrick said, "I would give much if I could say 'Oh' like George Whitefield!"

Can we say with Jeremiah: "Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain . . . of my people" (Jeremiah 9:1)? *Do we weep with Christ over a perishing world?*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

Scripture Reading—Psalm 19-30

CHRIST, THE SINNER'S FRIEND

In one of his meetings in Spitalfields, John Wesley denounced the sins of the people. Two men, heavily under the influence of liquor, stood on the edge of the crowd. "He's saying mean things about us," they said; "let's do him in." With large rocks in their hands they crept to a vantage point from which they could hurl them at Wesley's head. As they were about to carry out their murderous plan, Wesley's emphasis suddenly changed from sin to the Saviour, the sinner's Friend. While he lovingly and earnestly

spoke of the Saviour, his face shone, and his fervent words burned their way into the hearts of his would-be-murderers. The stones dropped from their hands. They went and knelt at Wesley's feet. He put his hands on their heads and said, "God bless you, my boys! God bless you!" As they walked away one said, "Was it God himself?" "No, Bill, but it was a man like God!" answered the other.

The best sermon is not the one which makes the hearers go away talking to one another, and praising the speaker, but is that one which makes them go away thoughtful and serious, and hastening to be alone.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

Scripture Reading—Psalm 31-37

HOW TO GET RID OF
AN UNDESIRABLE PREACHER!

Look the preacher straight in the eye while he is preaching and say, "Amen," once in a while. He will preach himself to death in a few weeks. Pat him on the back and speak encouragingly of his good points. He will soon work himself to death. Start paying him a living wage. Perhaps he is one of those many preachers who have gone on starvation wages for so long, he would eat enough to kill himself if he ever got the chance. Rededicate your own life to Christ, and ask the preacher for a job to do, preferably winning some lost person to Christ. He'll die of heart failure! Get the church to unite in prayer for the preacher, and he will soon become so effective, some larger church will take him off your hands!

I do not ask
For earthly place or laurel,
Or of this world's distinction any part,
I only ask when I have voiced the message,
My Saviour's heart.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

Scripture Reading—Psalm 38-48

IN QUIETNESS AND CONFIDENCE

"You can do more for that veteran than we can," said a guard to me as I entered the gate of a great veteran's hospital to visit patients in the psychopathic section of the hospital. The guard meant, of course, that the One I represent could help where human help was of no avail. The patient I visited was a brilliant Wheaton College student upon whose mind and nerves the shock and horrors of war, and also over-study, had left their scars. For at least an hour, both the student and myself called upon the Great Physician to work mightily in his behalf. God answered our prayer almost immediately! Relaxation came to the student's taut nerves, and his turbulence of mind gave place to serenity and poise. The cure was complete.

God's promise is sure: "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3).

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Scripture Reading—Psalm 49-58

THE HEARER'S RESPONSIBILITY

A Christian lady told at a women's meeting: "When I was a child we had a minister who preached very plain from God's Word to both saved and unsaved, but because he did this, a group of people strongly opposed him in the church, and vowed they would get rid of him. Forces of evil outside the church wanted to be rid of him, too, and life was very difficult for him. Finally, his health broke down, and he had to resign. When he was leaving, the opposition decided to give him a dinner, and the man who opposed the godly minister most was chairman of the meeting. As a child, I surely was puzzled that night when the chairman said how sorry they were because the minister was leaving. I wondered at such insincerity, but I have never forgotten the minister's reply, and I don't believe the chairman did either. "The Lord is my Judge. I gave His Word in this place. How you received it is your responsibility."

I do not ask
That men may sound my praises
Or headlines spread my name abroad,
I only pray that as I voice the message,
Hearts may find God.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

Theodore Roosevelt was in Chicago one Sunday during a political campaign. He attended church, as was his custom. The pastor asked him to speak. He stood and quoted this verse: "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only" (James 1:22). Then he sat down. Other worshipers remembered that one-verse sermon long after they had forgotten the well-spoken sermon of their pastor.

—Selected

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 8)

these children had joined our schools knowing nothing and are now able to read and write Hindi very well. Mr. Jones had so kindly visited these schools and saw the things himself. His visit to the schools and local congregations brought immense inspiration and enthusiasm.

About sixty families comprising of five hundred members in a village called Rampura of high caste Hindus under the care of the Rev. Sohan Lal and Deacon Rajesh Kumar are willing to accept the Lord as their personal Saviour and are under preparation for mass baptism after exhausting the legal formalities lest it may cause any scandal against the church. They were baptized in February.

The church seminar held in the month of September was full of heart-searching, dedication, renewal and strengthening the preachers for another year of work and trial. The campfire service organized therein the first time of its inception brought out the sins and repentance for being the new creature in Him.

In spite of the fact that our church is without any source or resource and lacks all basic needs our achievements are on the high side for which we owe our gratitude to God and to the people of North Carolina who are partakers in His vineyard.

Dr. Emmanuel M. Lall
India

CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 7)

This book is an invaluable resource for our churches who already have an educational ministry with college students or who would like to begin one. It will be especially helpful for our churches located in or near college towns. It can be ordered through our bookstores.

(**NEXT ISSUE:** Discussion as a teaching method.)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

NEW CREATIONS TO SING

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will sing Sunday, April 17, for the 11 a.m. service at Kenly Church, and at the 7 p.m. service of Spring Hill Church in Goldsboro.

MOC PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker at Antioch Church in Craven County on Sunday, April 17, at 11 a.m. At 9:45 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes.

During his visit, President Raper will review plans for Mount Olive's transition to four-year status.

The pastor of Antioch Church is the Rev. Jerry English.

VISIT MOC ON APRIL 16

Mark Saturday, April 16, on your calendar and plan to visit Mount Olive College that day and participate in one of several events taking place on the campus.

High School Day: High School Day is an opportunity for young people to visit Mount Olive and learn about the advantages of attending the only college affiliated with the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Youth directors are encouraged to help coordinate the transportation for groups so that every Free Will Baptist high school student can attend. Registration begins at 9:45 a.m. in the Henderson Building. The program will conclude with lunch to be served in the College cafeteria. Those attending will be guests of the College.

Church Choral Society Meeting: Pastors and church choir members are urged to attend this meeting of the Church Choral Society to be held on the downtown campus, beginning at 10 a.m. The hymns and anthems to be used in the first performance will be selected and future schedules will be discussed.

Most of the rehearsals will be held in the local church. There will be two or three joint rehearsals and then a grand performance.

Jack Bircher, a member of Core Creek Church in Cove City, has been elected president of the society, and Mrs. Carolyn Knox of the Mount Olive College Music Department will serve as director.

Information Program on Scouting: A program on Scouting in the local church will be held in the Henderson Building beginning at 10 a.m. See article below.

"SCOUTING IN THE CHURCH" TO BE PRESENTED AT MOC

Mount Olive College is hosting a program on "Scouting in the Local Church" to be held Saturday, April 16, in the Henderson Building, beginning at 10 a.m. The workshop is being sponsored by Boy Scouts of America.

The Tuscarora Council, headquarters in Goldsboro, and the East Carolina Council, headquarters in Kinston, will be conducting the program which is designed to assist Free Will Baptist Churches with organizing and promoting Scouting.

There is no registration fee and those who attend are invited to be guests of Mount Olive College for lunch.

Experienced Scout leaders will be on hand to explain and to answer questions on how to organize Scouting from Cubbing to Exploring. Following the workshop, the Councils will provide follow-up assistance to those churches which wish to establish a program.

Each church is encouraged to send three representatives who are interested in young people.

Now is the time to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE SPRING HIGH SCHOOL DAY

Saturday, April 16, 1983

Program

9:45 A.M.	Henderson Building Registration and Refreshments	
10:00 A.M.	Campus Tours	
11:00 A.M.	Rodgers Chapel	
	Welcome	Dr. Raper, President
	Devotion	*New Creations*
	Student Life	Dr. Johnson, V. Pres. for Student Affairs
	Academics	Dr. Jeanes, Vice President/Dean
	Financial Aid	Ms. Cobb, Director of Financial Aid
	Alumni Perspective	Mr. Ed Morris ('71)
12:15 P.M.	Lunch (downtown campus) Music by the *Mount Olive Singers*	
1:00 P.M.	Conferences with faculty members (downtown campus)	
	Baseball game with Lenoir Community College (Scarborough Field)	
1:30 P.M.	Auditions for the *Mount Olive Singers*	
	Auditions for the *New Creations*	

Campus tours conducted by students will include: Rodgers Chapel (pictured above), Henderson Building, Moye Library, Student Center, Dorms

Let us help you plan your future at Mount Olive College. Visit the campus on Saturday, April 16.

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation is anxious to help you with any of your Sunday school or church needs. We can supply you with classroom equipment, visual aid materials, lesson commentaries, as well as church furniture, art stained and decorative glass work, fiberglass steeples and baptismal pools, pianos, organs, choir robes, and other religious merchandise. We urge you to see us for all your church needs, so we can better serve our Lord and our denomination.

Six Locations to Serve You

Ayden • New Bern • Smithfield • Wilson • Kinston • Whiteville

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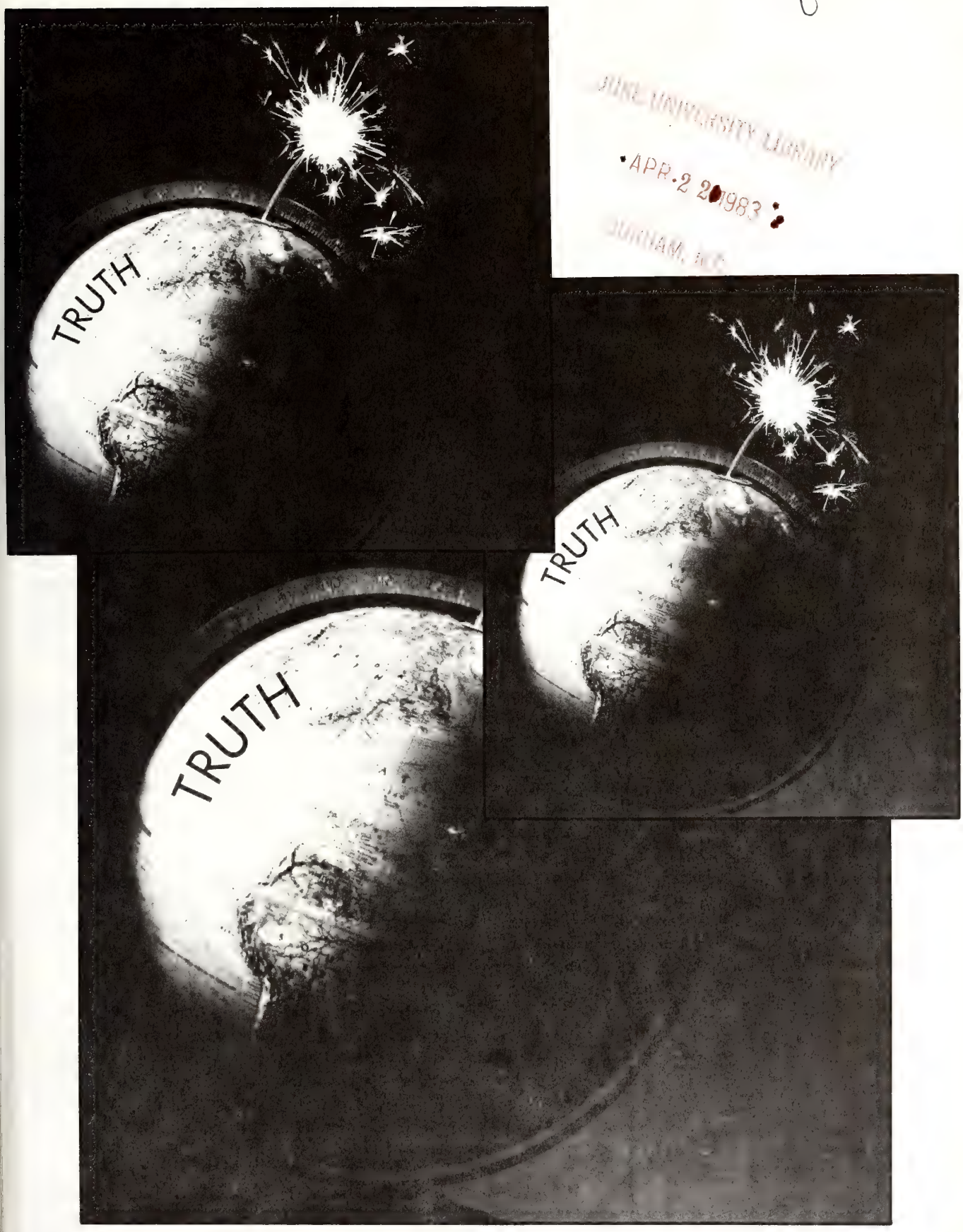

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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April 20, 1983
Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

The Good Life?

It was November and the three members of the American missionary party sat cross-legged on the floor of a tiny hut in a Chitwan Tharu village in Nepal. The natives had killed a bony old rooster in the Americans' honor; and they served all of him—in a yellow and greenish mixture of herbs and rice. The fact that it was dark inside the hut worked to the group's advantage, for as a result, they could not see what they were eating. The three Americans did a lot of laughing and joking; they asked God to "Bless every bite." They felt they could afford to joke; in a few hours they would be back on the mission plane and on their way to Kathmandu. And the following week, they'd be back in the "promised land" of America.

Halfway through the meal, one of the men looked up at the tiny, half-clad shriveled woman who had prepared the food. Her face was hardly visible in the dim light of the hut, but it was aglow with love. Her family had spent a month's wages to prepare this "feast." No longer did she look like a simple tribal woman with a ring through her nose. Instead, she resembled Mary of Bethany pouring out the precious perfume on Jesus' feet; she looked like the old widow dropping her mite into the treasury, while Jesus watched in the shadows. That dark-skinned, bare-footed woman had been touched by God, and she was rich beyond measure.

Unfortunately, we as Americans often have a way of equating financial prosperity with spiritual righteousness. Our impressive church buildings, large budgets, and God-is-blessing-us-because-we-had-one-hundred-and-fifty-people-in-church-yesterday syndrome seems to have replaced the Spirit of the One who had no place to lay His head.

Many times the two primary questions when ministers get together are "Jahave?" and "Jaget?" (How many people did "jahave" in church yesterday? How much money "jaget?") Some think this hilarious—I think it's pathetic, and ask, "Where did we get off course?"

You and I would do well to remember the wilderness of Sinai. It was there that three million Jews were protected and provided for by God for forty years. There was manna from Heaven, protection from snakes, water from rocks, and clothes that never wore out. Yet they were a dying people—they missed God's divine intent for an entire generation.

The blessing of God cannot be equated with new cars or even three meals a day. It comes only when Christ transforms the inner person into a creature of love, joy, and peace. It's available for all—maybe that's what we should start asking for.

THE ROOSTER'S MESSAGE

(Matthew 26:69-75)

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

Introduction

God always has and He always will use whatever He has to get the job done. And here we see God using a rooster to get His message to Peter.

I. Now the rooster rises early and begins his God-given task—crowing.

This is more than we can say about a lot of church members. It's hard for some of them to do anything pertaining to spiritual things. If it's going fishing or something else concerning worldly things, it's not too much trouble to get them up on time. They can get up early to do the things they want to do. But if it has anything to do with working for God, then you just cannot get them up on time. There are a lot of them that have trouble getting up on time to make the eleven o'clock service. God needs early risers to work in His vineyard.

II. The rooster does not refuse to do his job every morning.

Just because he cannot sing like a mockingbird, he does not stop from doing his best. We need more of this kind of people who will not refuse to do what God wants them to do. Some will say they have no part in the church just because they cannot sing. But that did not stop the rooster from doing his job every morning. We all cannot sing, all cannot preach. But there is something that everyone of us can do. All can come and sit in the pews and be with God and with His people. The rooster did not refuse to do his job.

III. The rooster puts all that he has into his job and never gets any praise.

It's pitiful the way some want to be patted on the back and be told how good they are. Someone could pat them on the back from now until doomsday, but that would not get them into the Kingdom of God. They want to be told that it's all right to do like they want to, but it's not all right if they want to get to Heaven. God says it's wrong, and He is the One that they will have to answer to. We will have to put everything we have into it just like the rooster did.

IV. The rooster is the proclaimer of good news.

He announces the arrival of a new day with God-given privileges and responsibilities. We can take the advantage of a new day by going out and sharing the good news with others. There is good news to tell, that Jesus is coming soon. We must carry out our jobs until He comes back. Let's be the bearers of good news; no one likes bad news. But there is a

(Turn the Page)

day coming soon that will be bad news for all who are lost.

V. The rooster is dependable; he is persistent.

The rooster is always there and never late. It would be wonderful if God had more people as dependable as the rooster. There is no dependence to be put in some church members. They'll come to church if it doesn't rain. But it ought not to be that way. The Bible says to forsake not the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is. We can do as we please here on earth as far as being on time, but there is coming a time when each of us will be on time. When the death angel comes we will be on time. When the roll is called up yonder we will be on time.

VI. The rooster never complains about the job he has to do.

I wish that I could say that we don't have any complainers in the church, but we do. People even complain about going to church. Some feel that it's their duty to go. If that is why some go to church then I believe that they would be better off to stay at home. I count it a privilege and a pleasure to go to God's house.

VII. The rooster awakes those that are asleep.

There are a lot of church members that are asleep and they need to be awakened from their sleep. We are not too popular when we try to awaken them that are asleep. But it's necessary for us to awaken those that are asleep. When the rooster crows in the morning, he doesn't stop at one time but keeps right on until he gets the job done. That's the way we should be and not give up. If we give up too easily we may stand before God with blood on our hands.

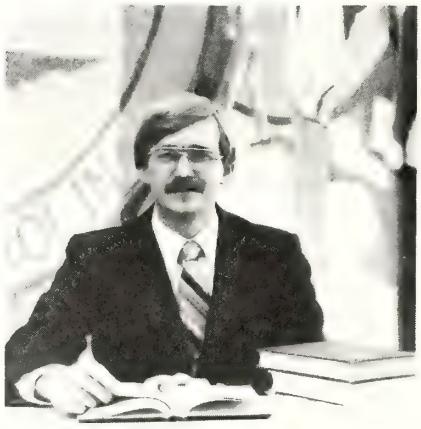
VIII. The rooster delivered a message to Peter.

Peter had just been cursing and swearing, and saying he was not with this man and that he didn't even know Him. That is a good way to show people that you don't know Christ. In Verse 74 we read ". . . and immediately the cock crew." In his account of this event, Luke said, ". . . the Lord turned and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice" (Luke 22:61).

Peter had just denied Him the third time. The rooster had delivered Peter the message. And Peter knew that it was the message Christ had promised him. That message from the rooster made Peter remember. That message made Peter sad and brokenhearted. ". . . Peter went out, and wept bitterly" (Luke 22:62).

STONEY CREEK YOUTH MINISTER ENROLLED AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

by Mary Susan Yates



Steve Starnes

Steve Starnes, ministerial student at Mount Olive College, says that there's a saying around Morehead that a Carteret County person will never leave the area. Formerly employed in forestry work with the Croatan National Park, Steve has not only broken tradition in leaving, but he has also made a rapid adjustment to both college life and his new profession.

He completed his first semester at the College with an "A-" average, and he was appointed Youth Minister at Stoney Creek Church, near Goldsboro, beginning work the first Sunday in March. His responsibilities at Stoney Creek, according to Pastor Gary Bailey, include assisting in the Sunday morning worship service and conducting the Children's Church. Steve will also be directing the church's four youth groups and participating with them in district and state youth rallies.

Of his college experience, Steve says that he is fairly typical of the other ministerial students at Mount Olive and that they have helped tremendously in the transition. "Those who have moved here all have the same problems. We get together with our families and talk and really hold each other up," he explained.

There are three other current ministerial students at Mount Olive who have moved with their families to the area: Cecil Blackmon, Roger Heath, and Buddy Rogerson.

Steve's wife, Sandy, is employed part-time at the Retirement Village in Mount Olive, and she hopes to also take classes at the College. "It's a tremendous opportunity for the wives," says Steve, "and we hope Sandy can enroll when her hours are more regular." He himself hopes to be in the first four-year graduating class.

Steve may have broken the county custom by leaving Morehead, but he is upholding his family tradition. He is the son of the late Rev. J. B. Starnes, formerly the pastor of Faith Church in Morehead.

The Starnes's home church is Holly Springs Church in Newport, where his father was also a former pastor.

FESTIVAL OF GOSPEL MUSIC TO BE HELD

The Hall Sisters

The North Carolina Free Will Baptist Layman's League Convention cordially invites everyone to attend a festival of Gospel Music, on Saturday, April 30, 1983, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be catered by Wilber's of Goldsboro at $3.75 per plate. Program participants include: The Collie Singers, Nashville; The Hopper Brothers and Connie, Madison; The Watchmen, Goldsboro; The Hall Sisters; The Down East Boys, Potter's Hill; The New Creations, Mount Olive College; The New Life Singers, Wilson; and The Sentinels, Durham.

Revival Services in Progress at British Chapel

Revival services will continue through April 22, at British Chapel Church, Route 6, Kinston. The Rev. Jack Mayo is the guest evangelist; he is being assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Robert Fader. Services begin nightly at 7:30, and special music is featured each evening.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Youth Revival to Be at Aspen Grove Church

There will be a youth revival, April 21-23, at Aspen Grove Church near Fountain. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. On Thursday night, the Rev. Scott Sowers will be the speaker; Friday night, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood; and on Saturday night, the Rev. Dean Kennedy. There will be special music each night. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Piney Grove Church to Have Revival Services

Piney Grove Church, Beaufort County, will be having revival services, April 27-29. The Rev. Charles Crisp will be the evangelist. The services will start at 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Walter Pollard, and the church members invite everyone to attend these services.

Revival in Progress at Pleasant Hill Church

A revival is in progress at Pleasant Hill Church, Highway 43 in Pitt County, through April 22, the pastor, the Rev. C. F. Bowen, announces.

The Rev. Craig Simmons, pastor of the First Church in Wilson, is the evangelist. Special music is being offered each night. The services start at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

Clyde Cox Honored at Micro Church

On Sunday, March 27, the members of Micro Church, Micro, honored their pastor, the Rev. Clyde W. Cox, with a pastor appreciation day. A special service showing their love for him and his wife, Mary, for being faithful and understanding servants was conducted by the Young Women's Prayer Fellowship. Elaine Phillips was spokeswoman for the group.

A luncheon was held in the fellowship hall following the morning worship hour. The pastor was also presented a birthday cake in recognition of his birthday. In the afternoon, entertainment was provided by the Church Quartet.

Spring Hill Church Announces Revival Services

The Rev. Wayne King will be the guest evangelist for revival services at Spring Hill Church, 4556 Highway 70 West, Goldsboro, April 25-29. The prayer room will be open at 7:15 p.m. Services will begin at 7:30 p.m. A very special service has been planned for Tuesday night. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

(Turn the Page)

First Union of Western Conference to Meet

The next meeting of the First Union of the Western Conference will meet at Pleasant Grove Church of Wayne County on Saturday, May 28, 1983. Due to prior commitments Piney Grove Church asked to host a later meeting.

Revival Services in Progress At Daly's Chapel Church

Revival services are in progress at Daly's Chapel Church near LaGrange through April 22, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Mike Scott is the evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Tony McLamb, extends an invitation to the remaining services. Special music will be presented each night.

AFC Groups of Lee's Chapel Church Meets

The AFC Group I of Lee's Chapel Church met Monday, March 21, in the fellowship hall of Lee's Chapel Church, near Dunn. It was opened with prayer by Mrs. Phyllis Jackson, leader. After all members present were welcomed, a lesson entitled "Jesus Is Alive" was given with pictures to look at. The Scripture was taken from Matthew 26:1-8. Then Mrs. Jackson read a story about Mother Rabbit and her five baby bunnies. During craft time the group made their mothers a tulip to take home. The meeting ended with prayer. Members present were Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Cindy Eason, Lavelle Jackson, Neil McLamb, Janelle Norris, Tonya Jackson, Kellie Godwin, and one new member, Cheryl Godwin.

The AFC Group II studied the 12 Old Testament History Books from Joshua to Esther, under the leadership of Mrs. Shelia Jackson. Parts for the skit in the April Youth Rally were discussed. Members present were Anthony Branch, Jason Elmore, Brent Godwin, Joseph Grubbs, Everette Hefner, Brian Jackson, Jessica Jernigan, Melisha Kollmarm, Johnny Williford and Trent Jernigan.

The AFC Group III meeting was opened with prayer by Mrs. Charlotte Jackson, leader. A brief business session was held when Mrs. Jackson reminded each member to attend the Easter outing to be held Saturday afternoon, March 26. Nursing home visits, an Easter egg hunt and a cook-out were planned.

A prayer and card list was then read. The lesson was given about the 12 history books of the Bible. A brief outline of each book was then given by the leader. A Bible exercise was done by all members present. Then Michael Elmore adjourned the meeting with prayer. Those present were Robert Sills, Charlie Norris, Kristie Godwin, Shannon Eason, Michael Elmore, Anda Byrd, Michelle Jackson, Ken Jackson, and a new member, Christie Thornton.

Alyne Elmore Circle of Lee's Chapel Church Meets

The Alyne Elmore Circle of Lee's Chapel met in the fellowship hall on Tuesday, March 15, in the evening. Pam Spell, co-chairman, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone present. Prayer requests were then given and prayer was led by Charlotte Jackson. Scripture was taken from Genesis 24 and the lesson entitled "Rebekah" was given by Charlotte Jackson.

A business session was then held. Plans for the Easter Sunrise Service were discussed. Mother's Day plans were gone over. As a project, it was decided to give sunshine baskets to someone in the church every month.

The meeting was adjourned with sentence prayers. Refreshments were then served by Phyllis Jackson, the hostess. The April meeting will be co-hosted by Brenda Jackson and Marguerite Lockamy in the fellowship hall. Those present were Peggy Branch, Delores Norris, Brenda Jackson, Marguerite Lockamy, Phyllis Jackson, Sherry Matthews, Terry Godwin, Judy Jackson, Agnes Kirby, Glenda Tew, Pam Spell, Phyllis Godwin, Charlotte Jackson, and Dianne Young.

AFC Groups of Lee's Chapel Have Easter Party

The AFC Groups of Lee's Chapel Church near Dunn held their Easter Party, Saturday afternoon, March 26, at the home of Mrs. Shelia Jackson, Group II leader. The groups first journeyed to Charles Parrish Nursing Home and then to the Senior Citizens' Village for visits there. They returned to Mrs. Jackson's home for the party. An egg hunt and hot dog and hamburger cook-out with all the trimmings were enjoyed by approximately 25 children, the leaders and parents. The leaders of the group were Mrs. Phyllis Jackson, Mrs. Shelia Jackson, Mrs. Charlotte Jackson. Parents attending were Mrs. Cindy Eason, Mrs. Patsy Eason, and Mrs. Pennie Lucas. Upon leaving, each child was given an Easter bag filled with goodies from their leaders.

Holly Springs Church to Have Benefit Barbecue

Holly Springs Church near Newport, North Carolina, will hold the 13th Annual Free Will Baptist Children's Home Benefit Barbecue, April 23, at its fellowship hall on 9 Foot Road, 1.8 miles west of Newport stoplight at Highway 70-Bypass. Each year the Free Will Baptist Churches and friends in the area have made this event a greater success for the Home. The minimum donation of $3 last year produced a total gift to the Children's Home from the Barbecue of

(Continued on Page 14)

TAYLOR HILL MEMORIAL OFFERING APRIL 24, 1983

On December 6, 1982, God called the Rev. Taylor Hill home. Mr. Hill served the Home Missions and Church Extension Board as Director-Treasurer and Secretary from its beginning in 1972.

Under his leadership, nine successful missions were started; five have become established churches. Brother Hill had a burning desire to see Free Will Baptists involved in starting churches.

On occasions when money was not available to pay bills, Brother Hill paid them from his own account until funds came in.

I can think of no more fitting tribute to a man like this than a special day of honor, April 24, 1983, and a special offering for the work he loved so much.

"OTHERS"

by Charles D. Meigs

Lord, help me live from day to day
In such a self-forgetful way,
That even when I kneel to pray.
My prayer shall be for—OTHERS.

Help me in all the work I do
To ever be sincere and true,
And know that all I'd do for you.
Must needs be done for—OTHERS.

Let "Self" be crucified and slain,
And buried deep; and all in vain
May efforts be to rise again,
Unless to live for—OTHERS.

And when my work on earth is done,
And my new work in Heaven's begun
May I forget the crown I've won,
While thinking still of—OTHERS.

Others, Lord, yes others.
Let this my motto be.
Help me to live for others
That I may live like thee.

HISTORY OF HOME MISSIONS BOARD

The North Carolina Ministerial Association presented a resolution to the State Convention meeting at Black Jack Church of Pitt County, September 13, 1972, to establish a Board of Home Missions and Church Extension. The first Board members were Ray Wells, Grayson Spencer, Taylor Hill, Noah Brown, and C. L. Patrick.

The program reported to the 1973 State Convention a total of $5,255.87 in contributions and that two new missions had been "planted."

During the ten-year history of this department, there have been five missions organized into churches, a camping program developed for the deaf, and annual church growth and evangelism conferences and training programs for discipling made available. Eight mission churches are now being supported by the department.

We are now venturing into a new Home Missions program: the ministry to the H'mong people. The H'mongs are refugees who have been displaced from their native country of Laos. Because they supported the United States during the Viet Nam conflict, the Communists of Laos ordered that they be exterminated. They were brought to America to escape death. There are about 35,000 H'mongs in our country and about 75% are not Christians, but they are receptive to the gospel. The Christian H'mongs have asked us for help. We are becoming involved in this ministry by appointing Brother Bob Harber as our missionary-at-large to the H'mong people in America.

Taylor Hill

CURRENT HOME MISSIONS PROGRAM

Mission	Pastor
Haymount, Fayetteville	The Rev. Dean Kennedy
Eastwood, Fayetteville	The Rev. W. S. Burns
Heritage, Charlotte	Dr. Eugene Poston
Agape, Raleigh	The Rev. Ronnie Hall
Faith, Leland	The Rev. Roger Heath
Grifton, Grifton	The Rev. James Sowers
Wilmington, Wilmington	The Rev. D. C. Hansley
Faith, Durham	The Rev. Harry Brown

Camp for the Deaf, Eagles Nest,
The Rev. and Mrs. Dale Albertson

Ministry to Laotian Refugees:
The H'mong Tribe in America,
The Rev. Bob Harber, Missionary-at-Large

ADVENTURE FOR CHRIST

Phing and Emy lead the children in choruses.

I'm sure that you have your own ideas of how missionaries live. During our deputation we met many who thought of the mission field as an inconceivably harsh place. Others had a more romantic concept of mission life. They saw the mission field as a place of daring evangelistic services held in the midst of the jungle surrounded by hostile natives. The most incredible idea for us to accept was that the vast majority of our "Statewide" brethren have a very limited knowledge of how their missionaries really live. I pray that this article will help you to formulate a more realistic perspective of life in a foreign land.

The greater part of our time each day is routine. I prepare lessons or messages, teach or preach, and do a lot of running around on errands. A Home Bible Study with a church member concerning a particular problem area is the most unusual event of the average week.

Jackie teaches Jeff in the mornings, studies language in the afternoons, prepares for the next day's lessons, answers your letters, and performs the usual household duties of wife and mother. Her excitement comes in the form of a visit by some of our missionary friends and the antics of her puppy.

However, every now and then the pace begins to quicken. Someone needs emergency transportation to the hospital. A family argument erupts into a battle royal (not ours). Someone will rebel against the Lord and need firm counseling. We are thrilled by God's touch upon one we have been praying for. Souls are saved and baptized. A special emotional uplift comes when we get to leave the secure confines of home and venture into the outlying areas of Palawan.

The following narrative highlights some of the adventures to be experienced on this mission field. I hope you enjoy it.

As you know by now, we have been led of the Lord to begin establishing churches on the western coast of Palawan. At present three graduates of P.B.I. are conducting Bible studies and services in the seacoast community of Gawid. This is where 21 were baptized in December. As General Supervisor of the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines it is one of my happy privileges to oversee such areas of endeavor. This is where the drama begins.

Pastor Andrino Segay and I strapped our belongings onto the Kawasaki and headed for the west coast around 1:30 p.m., January 27. After 4½ hours, wooden bridges, and winding mountain roads we arrived at the Pagdanan Lumber Company's main camp. (If you have a map of Palawan nearby you can find this located north of Puerto Princesa City and west of Roxas.) Here we refueled, ate our egg sandwiches, and drank Mirinda orange.

After an hour's rest we began looking for the logging road that would take us over the mountains into our first destination, the community of Decala. As night fell upon us we finally found the correct path to follow. We were on our way, we thought.

The headlight of the motorcycle barely cut through the darkness. Climbing the steep incline was slow. Before we had covered 2 kilometers we had to retreat. A bulldozer had blocked our way with trees and gravel. The operator was busy clearing a section above the road where landslides had been occurring. Defeated and tired we retraced our tracks back toward the camp. Going down was worse than going up. Several times we nearly missed the sharp curves. Once we were saved by driving into a ditch. I wouldn't have gone in but the bike had broken traction and had been out of control.

After all this, we finally got to the bottom in fairly good condition. We asked a man sitting by the side of the road where we might find shelter for the night. He invited us to stay with him. We declined the offer when we learned that he was totally intoxicated, carrying two hunting spears, and had been the antagonist in a recent fight near

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Children's Home

"NEW LIFE SINGERS"

New Life Singers

"New Life" will present a program of song and testimony at Memorial Chapel Church on the Children's Home campus. This program will be held on April 24, 1983.

"New Life" is a Christian singing group from Chocowinity, North Carolina, who seeks to serve the Lord Jesus Christ through song and testimony. "New Life" seeks to share God's love with all ages and serve Jesus in all areas.

The Children's Home would like to extend an invitation to you to come and bring your family, friends, or neighbors to listen to the song and testimony of "New Life."

13th Annual Bar-B-Cue

Saturday, April 23 — **11 a.m. until 7 p.m.**

$3.00 Donations

Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church

9 Ft. Road — **1.8 Miles West of Stoplight**

Newport, North Carolina

to benefit

Free Will Baptist Children's Home

Middlesex, North Carolina

All Visitors to Crystal Coast Invited

Retirement Homes

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
MARCH, 1983
Total $1,076.03

CAPE FEAR	
Shady Grove	$ 5.00
Total	$ 5.00
CENTRAL	
Bethany	$ 25.00
Daniels Chapel	50.00
Edgewood	5.00
Hugo	25.00
Reedy Branch	30.00
Saratoga	164.50
Tarboro, First	125.00
Total	$424.50
EASTERN	
Antioch	$ 20.00
Bridgeton	18.00
Dublin Grove	15.00
Faith	10.00
Oriental	5.00
Total	$ 68.00
PEE DEE	
Oak Grove	$ 52.11
Total	$ 52.11
PIEDMONT	
High Point	$ 73.92
Total	$ 73.92
WESTERN	
Memorial Chapel	$ 25.00
New Sandy Hill	105.00
Piney Grove	62.50
Pleasant Hill	50.00
Rosebud	50.00
Sherron Acres	25.00
Spring Hill	125.00
Youth Fellowship	5.00
Total	$447.50
RELIGIOUS OTHER	
First St. Cloud, Florida	$ 5.00
Total	$ 5.00

MEMORIAL GIFTS

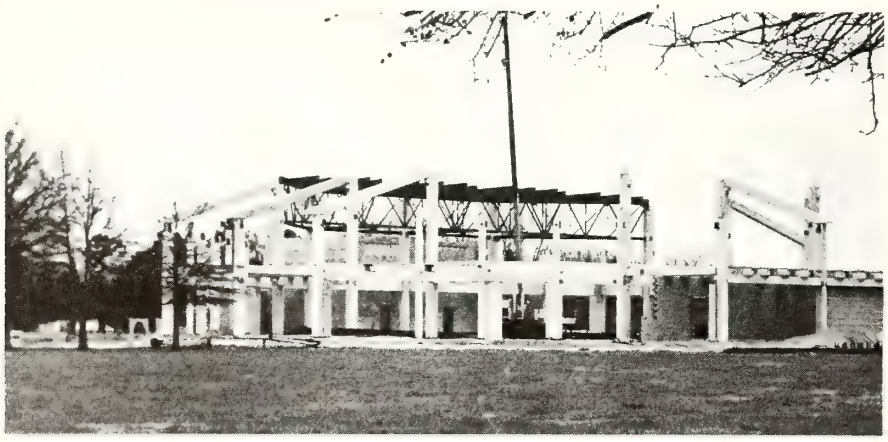
By Memorial Chapel in memory of Mrs. Corney Stocks

COMING EVENTS

April—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

April 30—Piedmont District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, East Rockingham Church, Rockingham

COLLEGE HALL AHEAD OF SCHEDULE



If weather conditions are favorable and no unforeseen delays develop, T. A. Loving Company, contractor for College Hall, hopes to finish the project three months ahead of schedule. The contract date is April, 1984, but if the present construction progress continues, the building will be available as early as February.

Endowment of the Week

FANNIE PAUL TYNDALL SWINDELL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

Mrs. Fannie Paul Tyndall Swindell At Age 91

In appreciation for the life and services of Mrs. Fannie Paul Tyndall Swindell (July 5, 1887—January 21, 1983) her family and friends have established a scholarship endowment at Mount Olive College. Mrs. Swindell was a highly respected educator who taught in the public schools of North Carolina for fifty-two years. She was also a beloved Sunday school teacher in the Arapahoe Church.

The scholarship will be awarded annually to worthy students at Mount Olive College. Preference will be given those who are preparing for careers in humanitarian service, including teaching, the ministry, nursing or other services to humanity. The first award in the amount of $500 will be for the 1983-84 academic year.

Initial gifts to the Swindell Endowment have exceeded $5,000 and as the principal of the fund grows the amount of the annual scholarship will be increased.

Biographical Information

Mrs. Swindell was born in Pamlico County and was one of nine children of the late Zacchaeus and Ferba Miller Paul. Like many other denominational leaders in this century, she attended the Free Will Baptist Seminary in Ayden, North Carolina.

Her fifty-two year teaching career began at age eighteen, and was primarily in Pamlico County where she taught as many as four generations from the same family. At her death a former student was heard to say, "She did a great job teaching me to read and write, but the most important thing she taught me was the right way to live.".

Not all of her teaching was in the public schools. She was a zealous Sunday school teacher. The Fellowship Hall of the Arapahoe Church was named in honor of Mrs. Swindell and her second husband, I. W. Swindell, whom she married after the death of her first husband who died in 1926.

Her only son, J. Paul Tyndall of Jacksonville, followed in the educational footsteps of his mother. Now retired after forty-six years as a teacher, principal and county superintendent, he is a member of the North Carolina General Assembly. Mrs. Swindell had one foster daughter, Mrs. Bruce (Dorothy) Harrison of Arapahoe.

The Swindell Endowment is open to receive gifts from anyone in any amount who would like to pay tribute to Mrs. Swindell. Checks should be made payable to Mount Olive College and marked "Swindell Endowment."

1983 ALUMNI MEETING

Saturday, April 30, is the date for the annual Alumni Meeting at Mount Olive College. This year the meeting will be a pig-picking to begin at 4 p.m. with recreation on the new campus in the area adjacent to the College Hall site. Penney Gates, class of '72 and president of the association, will be in charge of the program.

The meal will be served at 5:30 p.m. at a cost of $3.50 for adults and $2 for children.

PAUL PALMER COURSE

The Rev. Charles Crisp, director of the Home Missions program, will teach the course *Church Growth: Key Factors and Concepts* under the Paul Palmer Institute of Mount Olive College. Beginning May 3, the class will be taught in the

(Continued on Page 14)

For April 24

GOOD NEWS FOR ALL PEOPLE

Lesson Text: Acts 15:4-14, 19-21
Memory Verse: Galatians 5:6

I. INTRODUCTION

A church once had a problem with a severe infestation of insects in its building, and so it contracted with an exterminating company to rid the building of the pests. After several efforts failed, the company finally closed the building for two days, sealed it, and thoroughly fumigated it, solving the problem.

Would it not be a wonderful thing if we could find some way to close the church for a couple of days and fumigate it, thus ridding it of all the prejudices and opinions that infest it? In a sense, that's what happened in the Jerusalem church. The apostles and elders stopped what they were doing and came together to seek a solution to a troubling problem. After much discussion they permitted the Holy Spirit to have His way; as a result the church was purged of the Judaistic legalism.

The previous lesson dealt with the first missionary journey of Paul and Barnabas, which took them to Cyprus and Asia Minor. After their return to Antioch from this mission, they reported to the assembled congregation all that God had accomplished and how He "had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles" (Acts 14:27). Following this, they "abode long time with the disciples" there—perhaps several months or even a year or more (v. 28).

During this period "certain men" from Judea—Judaizers or those sympathetic to the Judaizers—came to Antioch. Instead of rejoicing with the brethren at Antioch over the great victories won during the first missionary journey, they began to make demands upon the Gentile Christians. They insisted that Gentiles had to be circumcised in order to be saved. Paul and Barnabas resisted this position with "no small dissension and disputation," in other words, a first-class church fight. The result was that they, along with other persons from the church at Antioch, were sent to Jerusalem to confer with the apostles and elders (15:1, 2). Scholars generally date this conference about A.D. 50.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. In an earlier lesson, we saw how God spoke to Peter through a vision and he preached the gospel to the Gentiles. Many of them at the house of Cornelius heard, believed and received the Holy Spirit. So it was Peter who opened the door for the Gentiles to be saved.

B. Peter was faced and charged by the Jews for doing this. However, when he told them how God had spoken to him through the vision, they were satisfied and said no more about the matter. But this does not mean that all of the Jews accepted this as being God's will.

C. When Barnabas and Paul went on their first missionary journey, many of the Gentiles were saved and churches were organized. This again brought up the question of whether the Gentiles could be saved without being circumcised.

D. To settle this whole matter of the Gentiles and circumcision, a Jerusalem council was convened. A great crowd of people including elders and apostles of the church came. James was the chairman for the council. In the lesson we hear the testimony of Peter, Paul, and Barnabas as well as James.

E. After all the testimony had been heard and many arguments had been made, James announced the decision. Gentiles could be saved without being circumcised. This meant that the only requirement for salvation was to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Of course, after they were saved they were to live in accord with the teachings of God's Word. Thus one of the fundamental doctrines of the church was decided.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

CHURCH AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Owen K. Arthur Jr. announces that he is available for pastoral work. He may be contacted by writing him at: Box 445, Bridgeton, North Carolina 28519; phone, 638-5396.

The Rev. Gurney R. Chase will be available for part-time or full-time pastoral duties May 1. He is a member in good standing in the Eastern Conference. He may be contacted at 411 Central Avenue, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; or phone, 523-3429.

Cabin Church, Beulaville, is in need of a pastor for full-time services. Anyone interested contact Lawrence Houston, 298-3155; or Nathan Hinkle, 298-3339.

PLEASE NOTE

Casey's Chapel Church, Goldsboro, recently completed a renovation project; and as a result of their efforts, they now have a two-ton central air conditioning unit and two oil-fired heating plants they would like to sell.

Any church interested in these items should contact the pastor, the Rev. Bryant Hines, by calling (919) 778-2290, office; or (919) 778-6740.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

Scripture Reading—Psalms 59-69

SAGACIOUS ADVICE

A young minister in a college town was embarrassed by the thought of criticism in his cultivated congregation. He sought counsel from his father, an old and wise minister, saying: "Father, I am hampered in my ministry in the pulpit I am now serving. If I cite anything from geology, there is Prof. A . . ., teacher of this science, right before me. If I use an illustration of Roman mythology, there is Prof. B . . ., ready to trip me up for my little inaccuracy. If I instance something in English literature that pleases me, I am cowed by the presence of the learned man that teaches that branch. What shall I do?" The sagacious old man replied: "Do not be discouraged, preach the gospel. They probably know very little of that."

God's command is, "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins" (Isaiah 58:1).

MONDAY, APRIL 25

Scripture Reading—Psalms 70-77

SELF-APPOINTED INFORMANTS

It has been my custom in my initial sermon in a new pastorate to request, among other things, that no one relate to me any gossip or slander about anyone else. Is it not the pastor's prerogative to learn what he wants to know about people? Does not the Bible tell him all he needs to know about poor, sinful, weak human nature?

One elderly lady, in my Pennsylvania pastorate, didn't take the request seriously. On Monday morning she called at the parsonage in the role of a self-appointed informant. Before I could check her, she had laid low a member of the church. True, he was a snoopy sort of a fellow, as I later learned.

Before the self-appointed informant could say more, I said, "Wouldn't it be Christian charity to have the individual, of whom you have spoken so ill, present to answer for himself any further accusations you may make against him?" Then I started toward the phone as if I was going to call the man. "Oh," she pleaded, "please don't! I confess that I have been sinful and un-Christian in my attitude toward that person. Do pray that God will cleanse my heart of this sin. It has rendered me powerless, joyless and has made me largely unusuable in God's service."

We must preach what has passed through the crucible of our own experience. We shall never produce conviction in others until the truth is a burning conviction in our own souls. Bunyan said: "I preached what I did feel, what I smartingly did feel!"

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

Scripture Reading—Psalms 78-85

YOUR PREACHING DISTURBS ME!

A man attended church regularly for months. Then he suddenly stopped. "I haven't seen you at church lately," said the pastor when he met him on the street one day. "Nor will you see me there! Your preaching on Hell disturbs me. I am now attending another church where the minister is not so narrow-minded as you." The faithful minister replied, "I am sorry you aren't coming any more. But let me tell you of a personal incident. One time I found a poor fellow half-frozen in the snow. He was near death. He felt so drowsy and comfortable that I had to shake him violently to awaken him." "So what?" replied the man rudely. "Just this," said the minister. "I preach to please God, and not to make people feel comfortable, or to lull them more soundly asleep in their sins. Lovingly and earnestly I warn impenitent sinners to flee from the coming wrath!"

When one has something to say, the best thing to do is to say it plainly, briefly, earnestly, and when he has said it to stop without apologies or explanations.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

Scripture Reading—Psalms 86-94

ARE WE MINISTERS SOFT?

We know more about vitamins than John Wesley did. But who of us could stand the pace he stood? The following description is from Albert Edward Bailey's biography of Wesley.

"An undersized man of delicate appearance, he yet had nerves of iron, could ride horseback twenty to sixty miles a day—once he rode a hundred miles in twenty-four hours. He rose at four in the morning, retired at ten p.m. and never wasted a minute. He read hundreds of volumes

while traveling—would drop the reins on the horse's neck and with both hands would hold the big books to his nearsighted eyes. In later years, when friends had given him a chaise, he boarded up one side of it, put in bookshelves and a writing board and so kept up his incessant work. He wrote voluminously, published 233 original works beside editing and translating others. For sixty years he kept a diary which accounted for every hour of every day, and kept beside a full-length journal. He could read Hebrew, Greek and Latin and could not only read but preach in German, French and Italian. At the age of eighty-three he was piqued to discover that he could not write more than fifteen hours a day without hurting his eyes; and at the age of eighty-six he was ashamed to admit that he could not preach more than twice a day. In his eighty-sixth year, he preached in almost every shire in England and Wales and often rode thirty to fifty miles a day."

I do not ask
That crowds may throng the temple,
That standing room be at a price,
I only ask that as I voice the message,
They may see Christ.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

Scripture Reading—Psalms 95-104

WHAT I OWE MY PASTOR

I owe him respect as the ambassador of God, sent to teach me a better way of living than the selfish, sordid existence I might be guilty of but for his guidance.

I owe him trust, that he may be free to serve the church, unhampered by fault-finding and criticism. I owe my pastor prayer, that God may make his services a blessing to everyone with whom he comes in contact.

I owe my pastor the protection of kindly silence by refraining from repeating in his presence the slander or unkind gossip that would worry him and prevent him from doing his best.

I owe him enough of my time to help him in his work whenever he may need me.

I owe him encouragement when vexations and annoyances make his work difficult.

I owe my pastor my attention when I go to church, that he may not be annoyed by seeing, by my careless inattentive actions, that I am not interested in what he is saying.

I do not ask
For churchly pomp and pageant,
Or music such as wealth alone can buy,
I only ask that as I voice the message,
He may be nigh.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

Scripture Reading—Psalms 105-110

WHERE HIS SERMONS HAD GONE

Coming to the close of many years of faithful ministry, an aged pastor tied his sermon notes in a bundle and wrote on it: "Where has the influence of all the sermons I have preached gone?" One who had been under his ministry for years and who had grown in Christlikeness and in the knowledge of God's Word, gave the following heartfelt appraisal of his sermons. "Where are last year's sunrays? They have gone into fruits and grains and vegetables to feed mankind. Where are last year's raindrops? Forgotten, of course, but they did their gracious and refreshing work. Your sermons, preached over the years, have gone into my life and into the lives of others, to make me and them better, nobler, and more Christlike. They have deepened our love for God's Word, given us a vision of and love for unsaved ones, and have challenged us to go on in the Christian life!"

How greatly does our sinful, morally and spiritually confused world need the Saviour! Christ and Christ crucified is still the power of God unto salvation!

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

Scripture Reading—Psalms 111-119:72

TWIGS AND ROOTS

When interviewing Dr. A. J. Gordon as a prospective pastor of a Boston church, the pulpit committee asked: "If you are called to the pastorate of our church will you preach against the cards, the theater, and dancing?" "I will," solemnly affirmed Dr. Gordon. He was called. Months passed and he didn't say a word against the cards, the theater, and dancing. The official board of the church said, "Almost a year has gone by and you have said nothing against cards, the theater, and dancing. We wonder why." Dr. Gordon replied essentially as follows: "Gentlemen, it is true that I have said nothing against these things, but I have preached Christ who is the only Saviour from all evils. When He comes into one's heart all evil things vanish from the life like the mist before the hot breath of the noonday sun!"

Dr. Gordon was eminently right. His stand agreed perfectly with the teaching of his Lord.

God's method of changing wrongs is to get to the source of evil and extirpate the roots.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 6)

$4,173.75, with an additional gift of $142.35 from a bake sale by the ladies of the church. It is the hope that 1983 will top the gifts from last year.

Anyone who is in the Crystal Coast Area on April 23 is invited to come by and enjoy the best in pit-cooked pork barbecue, cooked at the home of Otis Slaughter in the tradition of the Slaughter Twins.

Easter Services and Upcoming Events at Palmer Memorial Church

To start Easter off, Palmer Memorial Church had a sunrise service with the Rev. Dewey Boling bringing the message and finishing outside in a circle for prayer, as the sun was rising. After the sunrise service, everyone gathered at Shoney's for breakfast. The evening service finished with a baptismal service. There were three new candidates.

On May 1, the church will observe its 21st homecoming. The Rev. Royster Martin, who was the first pastor of the church 21 years ago, will bring the message. Before the sermon, there will be a memorial service, to remember those who have passed away during the year. After dinner, the Prescott Family Singers from Rock of Zion Church will sing.

The time of the services for the day are Sunday school at 9:45 a.m.; worship services at 11 a.m.; lunch served around noon; and the afternoon service begins around 1:30 p.m.

The spring revival at the church will be May 2-6, with the Rev. Arnold Price as the guest evangelist. The pastor of the church will be assisting in the services. Each night, at 7:15, a short devotion will be given by the youth. After the devotion, a circle will be formed for prayer. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

Multi-Purpose Room of the Free Will Baptist Press on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7:30-9 p.m.

The cost for the course is $20 for institute credit or $10 for non-credit.

Manuals will be available at the first class meeting. The course will continue through Thursday, May 26.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 8)

the home of the family we were to visit in Decala. We left his presence in haste.

Back in the logging camp we met a man known by Pastor Segay. He had just transferred to the camp from Puerto Princesa. He is the radio operator for the Pagdanan Company. We spent the night in the guest house where the radio room was located. The room was free and it even had an electric fan. Hot noodle soup was awaiting us when we woke up. We thanked God for the many unexpected kindnesses extended to us.

The trip over the mountains that morning was great. The view was magnificent. Tall hardwoods towered on one side and deep valleys plunged down on the other side. More praise escaped from our lips as we began the long descent. So steep and sharply curved were the downhill grades that it was hard to safely manage them refreshed and in daylight. Had the bulldozer not prevented our forward progress the night before, well, I shudder to think of the possibilities.

We decided to visit our friends in the Tagbanwa tribe before going to Decala. Another mountain loomed before us. Thankfully, it was not as tall as those we had just crossed. The elderly captain immediately asked us to hold a service. With regret we declined. Our mission was to visit the three young ladies in Gawid and that had to come first. After a brief renewing of our concern to teach them in the ways of the Lord we said "good-bye!" (For your information the Tagbanwas are asking for a pastor and have offered land upon which to construct living quarters and a chapel building.)

Back on the other side of the mountain once again we had to stop at a nearby logging outstation. The motorcycle needed oil. Mr. Fuertazuela, the manager, gave us one liter free of charge. This man had carried Fred, Stevie, and the bike across the same mountains on a previous trip. He also offered us a space upon which to build a church. The population of this camp is nearly 100 with 45 residences.

Leaving our new friend we started down the path to Mr. Velete's house. (Mr. Velete is the fruit of earlier Free Will Baptist evangelistic efforts.) We were again delayed when I bogged the bike down in a rice paddy. After a muddy struggle we freed ourselves and the bike and embarked along another path. This one was much better. Well, if you consider three fallen foot-bridges, a corn field, several stump holes as lesser obstacles than the mud, it was a better way.

At last, Decala and the home of Mr. Velete. We had come as far as we could by land. A grand total of 190 kilometers in 20 hours. After enjoying piping hot camotes (sweet potatoes) we entered Mr. Velete's pond-boat for the last leg of our journey. As always, the fresh sea air, scenic mountain sides, and beautiful blue-green water revived our spirits.

Charles Barnard

(Continued Next Week)

Howard Lovett
Concert Ministry

Howard Lovett concert programs consist of a pleasing variety of traditional hymns, and contemporary Christian music, along with short humorous sketches and personal testimony which provide an interesting and meaningful program to a wide range of tastes, musical interests and age groups. A full orchestral background recorded especially for Howard is featured in every performance and is tastefully controlled through sophisticated sound equipment. Guitar accompaniment is also used on some numbers. Every song, every spoken word is for the purpose of reaching the lost for Christ and bringing God's children into a closer relationship with Him.

Registration Form

North Carolina State Youth Convention
Mount Olive College
May 13, 14, 15, 1983

Name of Church _____

Address _____

Please give address and phone number of person we may contact to answer questions about your group's registration.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

A $15 registration fee per church should be sent with registration form before April 30, 1983, to:

Suzanne Coates
Box 450
Pine Level, NC 27568

Total number of youth and adults eating meals ($2 per meal) at Mount Olive College Cafeteria:

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Breakfast	**	____	____
Lunch	**	____	**
Supper	____	____	**

**No meals will be served at these times.
Money for meals will be collected at the cafeteria at the time of the meal.
Total number of youth and adults lodging overnight ($6 per person per night).

	Number	Amount
Friday	_____ X $6 = $	_____
Saturday	_____ X $6 = $	_____
	Total $	_____

Money for lodging should be sent with registration form and $15 registration fee by April 30, 1983, to:

Suzanne Coates
Box 450
Pine Level, NC 27568

(Towels and sheets will be provided by the College; bring your own pillow!)

Please give names of adults supervising young people staying overnight at Convention:

Remember to bring . . .
pillow
money for meals and snacks
Bible
notebook and pencil
casual clothes for entire weekend

The Free Will Baptist Press and Mount Olive College bookstores will be open Saturday.

Vacation Bible School is many things. It is a ministry. It is boys and girls singing and having fun; it is teachers telling Bible stories and advising students on how to live. It begins with churches planning and working to get ready. It is worth it all when young people (and adults) come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

The theme of the 1983 materials is **The Great Book.** With the Bible as its theme, this curriculum offers biblical teaching balanced with activities that serve to reinforce truths taught.

Learn more about **The Great Book;** attend the showing nearest you.

April 21	Smithfield Bible and Bookstore Smithfield	7:30 p.m.
April 25	Free Will Baptist Press Foundation Multipurpose Room Ayden	7:30 p.m.
May 2	New Bern Bible and Bookstore New Bern	7:00 p.m.

D.D.
(E) F857WB

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 98 Number 16
April 27, 1983
Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

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Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

Editorial

Walking and Talking

"Walking in the light" is risky living. It means that we must be honest, a characteristic which is not only foreign to our nature, but threatens us as well. Yet if we are to become New Testament people, otherwise known as Christians, we have to shed our masks and run the risk of letting others see us as we really are.

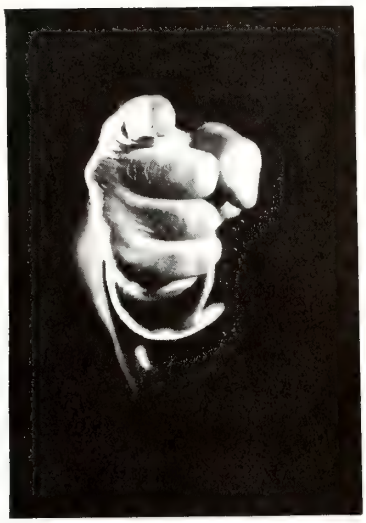
The risk involved in this process is none other than rejection. Many with whom we deal are unable, not only to be honest with themselves, but to accept others who are honest. How much better, though, to be rejected by a few in order to be accepted by many—including ourselves. This kind of transparency is not only the key to spiritual effectiveness, but to mental health, physical "wholeness," and true happiness.

This means that whatever I would ordinarily say behind a brother's back, I must be willing to say to his face. We usually wait until our friends leave to say, "He's got some real problems, doesn't he?" Or, "Did you see the way she acted in church Sunday?" Walking in the light, though, demands confrontation, a confrontation that may be quite painful, but one never intended to be of the stone-throwing kind.

Has your mouth ever gotten you into trouble? Oh, come on now, confess! If we're truthful, we will all have to admit that many times we speak when we should be listening. Quite often, the resulting foot from mouth extraction has been quite painful. It seems that there is a human inclination—among Christians as well as non-Christians—to "pop off" at the wrong moment, to speak before we know all the facts, to criticize and judge too quickly. While we are busy talking about the specks in our brother's eye, we often disregard the veritable log-jam found in our own. It is far easier to err on the side of talking too much than it is to err on the side of silence. It seldom hurts to put our harsh, critical, angry thoughts and comments on the back burner for a while. It is better that they simmer there and we take time to check the facts as best we can. And when we speak, our speech should not be of one trying to justify himself or herself—it should be of one whose deepest concern is not self, but the welfare and building up of the body of Christ.

Brothers and sisters, many of us refuse to be honest with each other; we refuse to admit we have difficulties and even worse, we refuse to accept others when they do not measure up to our standards. Herein lies one problem we as people—we as Free Will Baptists—face.

When we walk in the light we will have fellowship one with another.



HE THAT HATH EARS TO HEAR

by Stephen D. Boyd

WE first acquire faith by hearing God's Word (Romans 10:17). It's important to learn to listen. Jesus said, "The first command is, Hear, O Israel . . ." (Mark 12:29). The Bereans were complimented for their listening. "Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness . . ." (Acts 17:11). Jesus frequently urged His listeners, "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear" (Matthew 11:15, 13:9).

We should also listen to one another. One of the ways we show genuine interest and love is by listening. Seneca wrote: "Listen to me for a day—an hour—a moment. Lest I expire in my terrible wilderness, my lonely silence. O God, is there no one to listen?"

Studies show that we spend about seventy percent of our waking hours in some form of communication, and that forty-five percent of that time is spent in listening. Yet, our listening efficiency is only twenty-five percent.

In May, 1977, at Southgate, Kentucky, the Beverly Hills fire killed 167 people. Reports from the tragedy said a busboy took the microphone from two comedians on stage and told the audience there was a fire, explained where the exits were, and told people to leave immediately. It took the audience a full minute to respond. Many thought he was part of the act. People lost life-giving seconds because of a listening problem.

How can we make listening an ingredient in our Christianity?

First, find someone to listen to. We may be too concerned with finding someone to *talk* to.

At this moment someone needs you to listen to him. Paul said, ". . . weep with those that weep" (Romans 12:15). James stressed, "Therefore, confess your faults one to another . . ." (James 5:16). Paul also emphasized, "Bear one another's burdens . . ." (Galatians 6:2). One of the ways to fulfill each of these admonitions is by listening to someone who lives alone or someone who has lost a loved one or someone who is going through a personal crisis. Each needs someone who will listen.

Second, stop talking. James says, ". . . let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger" (James 1:19).

President Lyndon Johnson had a plaque in his office which read, "You ain't learning nothing when you're talking."

God gave us two ears on the sides of our heads, visible to everyone, and only one tongue which he placed in a cage behind ivory bars. Perhaps He wanted us to listen twice as much as we talk.

We learn what we can do to help by listening. We find out how we can assist and support our children and spouses when we listen to them.

A physician once wrote, "Many people do not need a doctor, they need an audience." To influence others for good, we need to be good listeners.

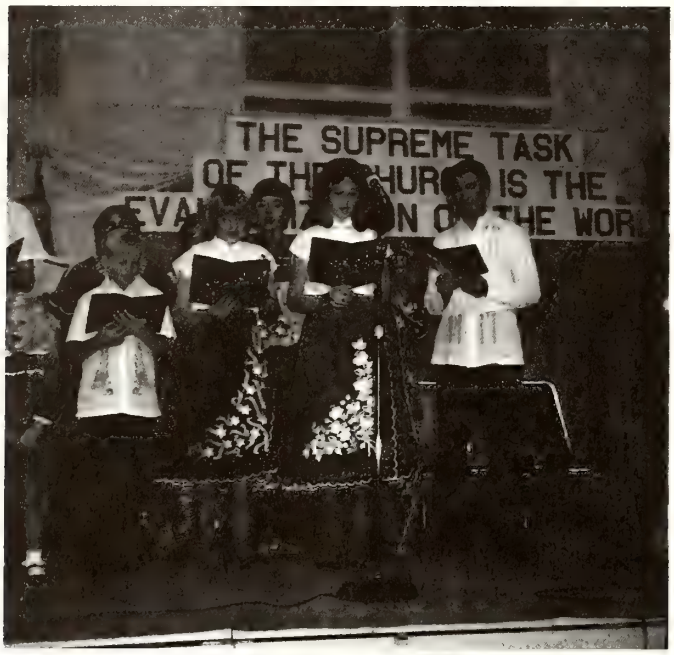
Finally, listen to ask questions. We show an interest in people and are more likely to understand when we listen with questions in mind.

Philip began his conversation with the eunuch by asking a question (Acts 8:30). Jesus used the questioning technique to confirm His divinity with His disciples (Matthew 16:13-17). After breakfast with His disciples following His Resurrection, Jesus used questions to determine the extent of Peter's commitment (John 21:15-17).

Listening to ask questions helps keep us on track. It helps us understand what a person knows, how he feels, and how we can help.

These three principles can help make us more effective Christians. We continue to be blessed by having ears that hear. Jesus said, "If any man have ears to hear, let him hear" (Mark 4:23).

NORTH CAROLINA STATE LAYMAN'S LEAGUE CONVENTION TO MEET



The North Carolina State Layman's League Convention will meet at Fremont Church, Fremont, located on Highway 117 between Goldsboro and Wilson, May 7, at 7:30 p.m.

The program will feature the Rev. Fred Baker, missionary to the Philippines, and the Tagalog Choir composed of those who have worked in the Philippines.

The scheduled program is as follows:

Prelude
"Amazing Grace"
Invocation, Alfred Moore
Greetings, the Rev. Keith Cobb
Welcome, Donald Marlow
Response, J. M. Langley
Recognize Pastors and District Conventions
Special Music, the Tagalog Choir
Message, the Rev. Fred Baker
"What a Friend"
Offering
Business Meeting
"Blest Be the Tie"
Benediction

Presiding, Henry Paul Beaman
Pianist, Tommy Benson
Song Leader, the Rev. Clyde Cox

Revival Services at Stoney Creek Church

Revival services will be held at Stoney Creek Church, near Goldsboro, May 2-6. The Rev. De Wayne Eakes will be the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Gary Bailey is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Revival Services in Progress At Wooten's Chapel Church

Revival services are in progress through April 29, at Wooten's Chapel Church, Route 3, Raleigh. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Alton Howard, pastor of Catalpa Church, will be the evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. J. B. Caton Sr., along with the church membership, extend a cordial invitation to everyone to worship in the remainder of these services.

Arapahoe Church to Have Revival Services

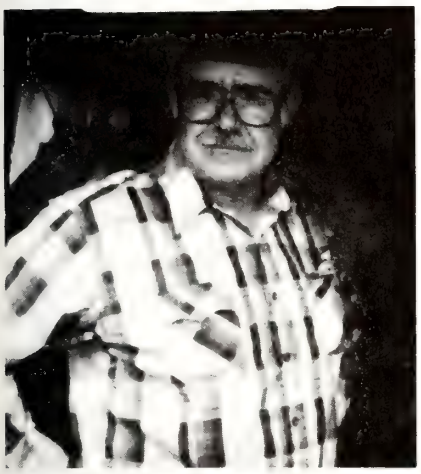
On behalf of the congregation of Arapahoe Church, Arapahoe, the pastor, the Rev. Doug Skinner, extends a cordial welcome to the revival services to be held on May 5, 6, 7. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Ray Williamson, pastor of Gum Swamp Church, near Greenville. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each night. A nursery will be provided.

First Church, Kinston, Aids Camp Vandemere

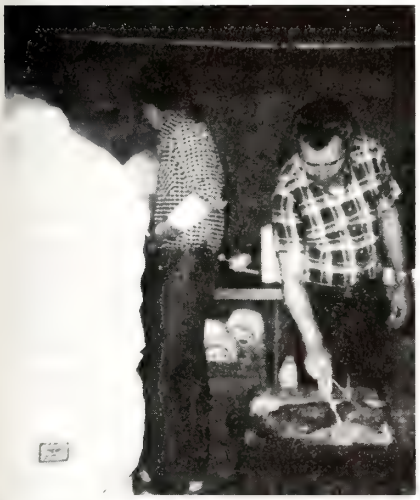
Ruby Overman, Rodolph Hill, Michelle Dudley.

On Saturday, April 16, some of the members of the First Church of Kinston had a busy day, the reason being a fish fry and yard sale for the benefit of Camp Vandemere. By the time the weekend was over, $1,300 had been raised for the camp. The fish fry was sponsored by the Layman's League and the yard sale was sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary. All of the food and supplies for the fish fry were donated by members

of the two bodies and certain other individuals. Items for the yard sale also came from the two organizations and the church members. The president of the Layman's League is C. J. Wiley. The president of the Ladies Auxiliary is Nina Grace Register. The pastor of the church is the Rev. C. H. Overman.



Bruce Dudley



Rodolph Hill, Donald Lee, C. J. Wiley

STATE YOUTH CONVENTION TO MEET

The North Carolina State Youth Convention will meet at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina, May 13, 14, 15. The scheduled program is as follows:

FRIDAY

5:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.—Registration, Main Building
6:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.—Supper
7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.—Variety Program, Downtown Campus, Auditorium (12 Minutes per District)
9:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.—Refreshments
10:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.—Vesper, Don Ribiero

SATURDAY

8:00 a.m.- 9:30 a.m.—Breakfast
9:30 a.m.—All Art and Crafts to Be in the Hands of the Judges at the Henderson Building
10:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.—Art and Crafts, Displays of Denominational Enterprises
10:00 a.m.—Downtown Campus, Auditorium, Bible Bowl Contest Lizzie Dawson, Quizmaster
10:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m.—Christian Writing, Henderson Building
11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.—Public Speaking, Henderson Building
11:30 a.m.-12:00 a.m.—Lesson Presentation, Henderson Building
12:00 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.—Lunch
1:00 p.m.—Registration, Junior High School, Mount Olive
1:30 p.m.—Sing Along
1:35 p.m.—Devotion, Roy Lewis, State Youth Convention President
—Offering
2:00 p.m.—State Youth Chairman, Recognition of Officers, Chairmen, Advisors, and Remarks
—Business
—Secretary's Report
—State Youth Project Report
—Registration Committee Report
—Old Business
—New Business
—Youth Project 1983
—Report from AFC and YFA Camp Weeks at Cragmont
—Treasurer's Report
2:40 p.m.—Recognition of Winners
3:00 p.m.—Refreshments
4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.—Choir Practice, Chapel
6:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.—Supper
7:30 p.m.—Program, Special Musical Guest, Howard Lovett
9:00 p.m.—Refreshments
10:00 p.m.—Devotions in Dorms by District Youth Chairmen and Advisors

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m.- 9:30 a.m.—Breakfast
10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.—Worship Service, Chapel, Speaker, James Cahoon
—Testimony, "What Did the Weekend Mean to You?"
—Prayer

COMING EVENTS

April—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

April 30—Piedmont District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, East Rockingham Church, Rockingham

April 30—North Carolina Free Will Baptist Layman's League Convention hosts a Festival of Gospel Music; 9:30 a.m., Eagle's Nest, Mount Olive

May—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Children's Home Month

May 2—The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and all branch bookstores closed for inventory

May 3—The Board of Directors of the Retirement Homes meets at 10 a.m., in the Conference Room in Memorial Chapel Church on the Children's Home campus.

May 7—State Layman's League Convention, Fremont Church, Fremont, 7:30 p.m.

May 8—Children's Home Day in churches

ADVENTURE FOR CHRIST

(Continued from Last Week)

In Gawid we sought out our co-workers. Sisters Luz Aurelio, Emy Gabinete, and Phing Rodriquez greeted us with broad smiles. Our hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Tito Rosauro, prepared a hearty lunch of shark chowder, wild pig, rice, and dried fish. The Rosauros are parents of one of the P.B.I. students this year. Supper included the delicious Philippine fish variety known as Lapulapu. Also on the menu was broiled squid. I'll let you decide which items I ate.

An evening devotional service was planned. I encouraged Pastor Segay to speak. He indicated that he was nervous and lacked confidence in his ability to meet the people's needs. I assured him that God would meet the need. All he had to do was to faithfully proclaim the Word. As he studied I entered into the back room to pray for the Lord's anointing upon him and the service. I had been praying for about 10 minutes when I heard the room door open. I looked up from behind the bottle crates where I was kneeling to see Mrs. Rosauro enter. Fearing that I might frighten her if I spoke I just closed my eyes and bowed my head once again in prayer. Moments later she left. As I cautiously reentered the main room I realized that Mrs. Rosauro had changed clothes while in the back room. What a predicament! The pastor was no longer nervous, but I was!

The evening service was a real blessing. The children had quickly learned every word and the actions for every song. The adults present hung on to every word of the message. Pastor Segay did a very good job. God had again answered our prayers. Several people asked for further counseling.

After the service we were approached by the mother of another P.B.I. student. She invited us to her home. There the pastor shared with her the good news of Jesus Christ. We scheduled another visit for the next morning. Special prayer was in order as we prepared for this visit. We were walking into a veritable stronghold of superstitution and false doctrine.

Mrs. Vista is a P.B.M.A. Missionary. The initials stand for the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association. This group believes that Christ's Second Coming has already taken place. He has, so they claim, returned in the person of one Reuben Ecleo of Surigao, Mindanao. Reuben, as he is known, bases his claims upon God's promises in the Old Testament, disregarding most of the New Testament. (I guess you could say he teaches limited inspiration.)

Mrs. Vista prays to Reuben as the Christ. She wears their society's ring with Reuben's picture under a blue stone. Many in Gawid attest to her power to heal the sick and to perform psychic surgery. She shared with us her formula. The sick person would recite a "Holy Rosary" 9 times. Then he must repeat one or more of their 12 secret words. The P.B.M.A. missionary would also pray in like manner 4 times a day. If the person has faith in Reuben he would immediately be cured. If not, he would get worse. All the while, as Mrs. Vista prayed to Reuben she would hold the ring to her heart with the picture inward.

Pastor Segay, led by the Spirit, presented to her clear-cut proofs from God's Word that Reuben could not be the Christ. She did not accept the truth, but seeds have been planted. She has asked for a Bible. Only much prayer on her behalf will enable the Word to penetrate the evil forces controlling her life.

This visit took place on Saturday morning. Since the evening before the pastor had complained of a cold. His fever and headache had begun to worsen. As we headed back across the bay to Decala it was evident that he was a very sick young man. By evening the malaria attack was taking its toll on his body. He spent the evening tightly wrapped in his jacket and blanket. Again, some mighty powerful praying was in order.

Returning to Puerto by motorcycle was out of the question. Our only alternative was to go by sea to the little port city of Bahili. We loaded the bike into Mr. Velete's boat. At 10 p.m. we left the relative comfort of the Velete home to transfer to a fishing hut further out along the bay. This was in order to avoid the low tide that would prevail in the morning. The night was short. Pastor's groaning kept me awake for a long time. We were up by 3:30 and on the way before 4.

Once again delays beset us. About one-half hour out the 16-h.p. Briggs and Stratton engine died. It took nearly an hour to re-start it. The rest of the three-hour ride was uneventful. As we neared the inlet that turned into a small river we had to stop the engine

(Continued on Page 14)

QUARTERLY REPORT FROM JANUARY 1, 1983 THROUGH MARCH 30, 1983

ALBEMARLE

Albemarle District Auxiliary Convention	$ 218.05
Albemarle Union Meeting	5.00
Corinth	10.33
Hickory Chapel	100.00
Malachi's Chapel	253.25
Mount Tabor	50.00
Mount Zion	93.81
Plymouth, First	100.00
Sidney	447.98
Trinity	100.00
Union Chapel	148.64
Total	$ 1,527.06

CAPE FEAR

Cape Fear Conference	$ 263.60
Catalpa	20.00
Goldsboro, First	120.00
Haymount Mission	195.86
Johnston Union	300.00
Lee's Chapel	43.67
Oak Grove	25.00
Palmer Memorial	141.51
Powhatan	86.07
Shady Grove	26.50
Smithfield, First	20.00
Yelverton Grove	20.00
Total	$ 1,262.21

CENTRAL

Aspen Grove	$ 5.00
Ayden	100.00
Central Conference Mission Board	450.00
Daniels Chapel	350.00
Edgewood	36.59
Elm Grove	240.00
Fourth Union	22.41
Free Union	10.00
Friendship	94.74
Grimsley	62.50
Gum Swamp	50.00
Harrell's Chapel	225.00
Hickory Grove	16.50
Howell Swamp	239.00
Hugo	125.00
Hull Road	1,000.00
King's Cross Roads	1,527.06
LaGrange	129.00
Ormondsville	250.00
Otter's Creek	69.36
Owen's Chapel	150.00
Peace	11.00
Piney Grove	141.80
Rocky Mount, First	50.00
Rose Hill	110.00
Rose of Sharon	75.00
Saratoga	214.50
Second Union	17.19
Spring Branch	175.00
Sweet Gum Grove	95.00
Tarboro, First	375.00
Winterville	308.59
Total	$ 6,725.24

EASTERN

Antioch	$ 100.00
Arapahoe	128.00
Beaufort	109.50
Beulaville	20.00
Core Creek	20.00
Croatan	20.00
Daly's Chapel	50.00
Davis	97.87
Dublin Grove	10.00
Eastern Conference Missions	500.00
Edwards Chapel	10.00
Faith	100.00
Fifth Union	20.00
Folkstone	514.00
Friendship (Jones County)	10.00
Holly Springs	77.38
Indian Springs	10.00
Jackson Heights	130.07
Kinston, First	180.00
Memorial	138.89
Mount Zion (Onslow County)	25.00
New Haven	50.00
Northeast	231.32
Oak Grove	10.50
Oriental	10.00
Pearsall Chapel	75.00
Pilgrims Rest	30.00
St. Mary's	305.00
Saints Delight	150.00
Sandy Plain	175.00
Snow Hill	350.00
Sound View	217.76
Spring Hope	10.00
Third Union District	20.00
Wardens Grove	20.00
Warsaw, First	75.00
Westside	413.50
Whaley's Chapel	5.00
Woodrow, First	15.00
Total	$ 4,433.79

INDIVIDUALS

Baker, Paul L.	$ 150.00
Baker, Mrs. Sallie G.	200.00
Baker, Fred	15.00
Benton, Joseph B.	50.00
Boyette, Mrs. Eva T.	25.00
Crabtree, Mr. and Mrs. Dale	60.00
Futrelle, Foy	40.00
Furlough, Mrs. D. H.	20.00
Goodson, Mrs. Kermit	5.00
Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur	100.00
Overman, C. H.	25.00
Poston, Dr. Eugene	50.00
Vick, Ronald	100.00
Total	$ 840.00

PEE DEE

Cypress Creek	$ 95.41
Emerson	236.10
Oak Grove	259.83
Pee Dee District Auxiliary Convention	90.00
White Oak	160.09
Total	$ 841.43

PIEDMONT

East Rockingham	$ 122.44
Heritage Mission	315.52
Total	$ 437.96

WESTERN

Calvary	$ 45.00
Durham, First	20.00
Elwood Lane	308.67
Everett Chapel	490.93
First Union	85.00
Flood's Chapel	13.00
Free Spirit	80.00
Fremont	200.00
Kenly	166.68
Little Rock	150.00
Marsh Swamp	160.26
Micro	17.79
Milbournie	75.00
Mount Zion (Nash County)	175.00
New Sandy Hill	125.10
People's Chapel	55.00
Pine Level	195.00
Piney Grove	81.25
Pleasant Grove	50.00
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Rains Cross Roads	12.50
Rosebud	37.50
St. Mary's (Kenly)	650.00
Selma	25.00
Sherron Acres	150.00
Spring Hill	370.00
Stoney Creek	15.00
Stony Hill	396.00
Union Grove	210.00
Watson's Grove	25.00
Wilson, First	250.00
Total	$ 4,844.68

OTHERS

Church Evangelism Conference	$ 411.00
North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary	146.46
Salvation Army	45.00
St. Cloud, First Free Will Baptist, Florida	5.00
Woman's Auxiliary District Fund	200.00
Zion Church, Blakely, Georgia	50.00
Total	$ 857.46
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS:	$21,769.83

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Crisp
Director/treasurer

NOTICE

To all Conferences and Associations in good standing with the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists: Please be informed that Brother Dan Jordan has been reinstated into the full fellowship of the Western Conference and is now a member in good standing with this Conference.

The Rev. Ray Wells, *Clerk*
Western Conference
Board of Ordination

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS

January, February, March 1983

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Belhaven	$ 125
Corinth	
Free Union	60
Gum Neck	100
Hickory Chapel	1,427
Malachi's Chapel	
Mount Tabor	305
Mount Zion	566
Auxiliary Convention	20
District Convention	215
Fifth Sunday Singing	100
Union Meeting	73
Plymouth, First	350
Shiloh	18
Sidney	459
Sound Side	419
St. Paul	350
Trinity	240
Union Chapel	506
Cape Colony Mission	16
Piney Grove	
Malachi's Chapel Sunbeam B	100
Malachi's Chapel Sunday School	804
Mount Tabor Sunday School	751
Sound Side Auxiliary	120
Union Chapel Layman's League	522
Hickory Chapel Auxiliary	90
Total Albemarle Conference	$ 7,741

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel	$ 570
Casey's Chapel	100
Daly's Chapel	340
Goldsboro, First	920
Haymount	254
Hopewell	428
Johnston Union	1,149
Lee's Chapel	3,326
Auxiliary Convention	56
Oak Grove	810
Palmer Memorial	822
Pleasant Grove	715
Robert's Grove	475
Riverside	325
Saint Mary's Grove	16
Shady Grove	930
Smithfield, First	815
Tee's Chapel	1,231
Victory Mission	135
Wooten's Chapel	50
Yelverton Grove	602
Catalpa	20
Christian Chapel	100
Eastwood Chapel	307
Faith	200
Lanwood Chapel	50
Mount Olive	40
Powhatan	150
Saint Paul	425
Smyrna	100
Steven's Chapel	200
West Clinton	
Lee's Chapel Sunday School	837
Oak Grove Youth Adult Class	100
Oak Grove Sunday School	500
Cape Fear Youth Rally	100
Johnston Union Sunday School	78
Shady Grove Auxiliary	172
Bethel Sunday School	111
Total Cape Fear Conference	$17,564

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	$ 740
Ayden	525
Bethany	410
Black Jack (Pitt)	2,035
Cedar Grove	350
Community	79
Daniels Chapel	1,124
Dilda's Grove	100
Edgewood	341
Elm Grove	1,260
Free Union	1,719
Friendship	794
Gum Swamp	1,875
Greenville, First	1,520
Grimsley	370
Harrell's Chapel	900
Hickory Grove	230
Howell Swamp	370
Hugo	734
Hull Road	533
King's Cross Roads	2,953
LaGrange	95
Little Creek	245
Marlboro	734
Union Number 2	49
Auxiliary Convention	34
Ormondsville	1,180
Otter's Creek	292
Owen's Chapel	131
Peace	217
Piney Grove (Pitt)	96
Reedy Branch	958
Roanoke Rapids, First	20
Rocky Mount, First	320
Rose Hill	771
Rose of Sharon	10
Saratoga	555
Spring Branch	820
Sweet Gum Grove	1,196
Tarboro, First	825
Walnut Creek	585
Watery Branch	40
Williamston, First	720
Winterville	717
Maury	100
Piney Grove (Beaufort)	
Union Number 4	212
King's Cross Roads Auxiliary	450
Reedy Branch Sunday School	1,185
Edgewood Auxiliary	25
Owen's Chapel Auxiliary	50
Ormondsville Sunday School	49
Black Jack Sunday School	220
Otter's Creek Sunday School	286
Little Creek Sunday School	675
Friendship Sunday School	553
Greenville, First Auxiliary	70
Dilda's Grove Sunday School	543
King's Cross Road's Young	55
Elm Grove Auxiliary	100
Aspen Grove Sunday School	1,214
Winterville Sunday School	988
King's Cross Roads Sunday School	117
Hickory Grove Sunday School	550
Piney Grove Sunday School	411
Grimsley Auxiliary	100
Rose Hill Sunday School	100
Rose of Sharon Auxiliary	100
Cedar Grove Auxiliary	50
Ayden, Janice H. Overman Auxiliary	20
Winterville Auxiliary	59
Pleasant Hill Auxiliary	50
Spring Branch Sunday School	250
Gum Swamp Auxiliary	16
Total Central Conference	$38,188

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	$ 770
Arapahoe	703
Bethel	1,150
Bethlehem	600
Beaufort Mission	750
Bridgeton	577
British Chapel	250
Core Point Chapel	88
Cabin	220
Christian Chapel	318
Crab Point	90
Croatan	400
Deep Run	723
Dublin Grove	592
Edwards Chapel	437
Ephesus	187
Friendship	506
Gethsemane	1,272
Core Creek	1,065
Gray Branch	620
Hillsberry	60
Holly Springs	1,025
Indian Springs	377
Jackson Heights	600
Juniper Chapel	743
Kinston, First	806
Lanier's Chapel	215
Long Ridge	15
May's Chapel	200
Memorial	100
Moseley's Creek	270
Mount Pleasant	349
Mount Zion (Pamlico)	384
Mount Zion (Onslow)	150
Union Number 5	170
Fifth Sunday School Convention	110
Union Number 3	262
New Bethlehem	262
New Haven	598
Northeast	108
Oak Grove	200
Oriental	35
Otway	41
Pearsall Chapel	778
Pilgrim's Home	403
Pilgrims Rest	100
Piney Grove	
Reunion Chapel	50
Rock of Zion	883
Rooty Branch	365
Sarecta	703
Sandy Plain	515
Smith's New Home	459
Sneads Ferry	300
Smyrna	1,125
Snow Hill	930
Sound View	304
Spring Hope	10

St. Mary's	1,028
Trent	195
Vanceboro, First	50
Verona	152
Wardens Grove	328
Warsaw, First	267
Westside	881
Whaley's Chapel	780
White Hill	95
White Oak Grove	454
Wilmington, First	
Woodrow, First	31
Angola	
Daly's Chapel	125
Davis	517
Faith	270
Faith Mission (Brunswick)	80
Faith Mission (Craven)	75
Folkstone	711
Free Union	95
Grants Chapel	
Macedonia	950
Russell's Creek	100
Saints Delight	783
Welcome Home	250
White Oak	30
Wintergreen	520
Beulaville	1,270
Auxiliary Convention	762
Carteret County Sunday School Convention	50
Sunday School Convention	15
Bethel Auxiliary	205
Moseley's Creek League	100
Kinston Auxiliary	110
Rock of Zion Auxiliary	200
Grants Chapel Auxiliary	200
Antioch Auxiliary	50
Core Creek Sunday School	545
Northeast Sunday School	299
Croatan Auxiliary	210
Deep Run Sunday School	387
Bridgeton Auxiliary	50
Dublin Grove Auxiliary	133
New Haven Sunday School	475
Reunion Chapel Auxiliary	15
Juniper Chapel Sunday School	109
Bethlehem Auxiliary	10
Crab Point Auxiliary	30
Antioch Apostle Sunday School	250
Kinston Everready Sunday School	125
May's Chapel Auxiliary	228
Friendship Sunday School	52
Faith Auxiliary	75
New Haven Auxiliary	50
Total Eastern Conference	$40,111

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Beaverdam	$ 3,075
Cypress Creek	
Emerson	
Union Number 1	168
Pee Dee Association	335
Oak Grove	1,912
White Oak	526
Ash	20
Little Bethel	40
Macedonia	
Mission Valley	
Mount Beulah	
Mount Calvary	100
Mount Olive	
Pine Level	
Pireway	
Pleasant Meadow	25
Thomasboro	300
Union Number 2	300
Cypress Creek Sunday School	282
Total Pee Dee Conference	$ 7,084

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Bethany	$ 50
Cathedral	
Community	
East Rockingham	952
Heritage Mission	353
High Point	547
Highland Pines	786
Holy Cross	265
Hopewell	
Mount Olive	100
Calvary	
Christ	
Christian Faith	
Gospel Light	
House of Prayer	100
Love Gospel	200
Advance Mission	13
Sweet Haven	50
Faith	
Cathedral	140
High Point Auxiliary	200
Miscellaneous Card	20
Conference	100
Total Piedmont Conference	$ 3,877

ROCK FISH CONFERENCE

Mount Moriah	$ 150
Hickory Grove	
Mount Calvary	
Total Rock Fish Conference	$ 150

TOE RIVER CONFERENCE

Roaring Creek	$ 342
Coxe's Creek	530
Curtis Creek	317
Poplar Church	182
Total Toe River Conference	$ 1,372

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Agape Mission	$ 100
Barnes Hill	1,000
Black Jack Grove	1,548
Branch Chapel	
Calvary	531
Elwood Lane	121
Everett Chapel	2,067
Fellowship	25
Flood's Chapel	225
Free Spirit Mission	1,077
Fremont	100
Free Union	520
Friendship	700
Holly Springs	20
Kenly	595
Little Rock	1,255
Marsh Swamp	2,207
Memorial Chapel	75
Micro	350
Milbournie	2,258
Mount Zion	724
Union Number 1	360
Union Number 2	75
First Western Sunday School Convention	87
Youth Fellowship	225
New Sandy Hill	521
People's Chapel	467
Pine Level	780
Pleasant Grove	1,923
Piney Grove	512
Pleasant Hill	429
Pleasant Plain	425
Rains Cross Roads	420
Rock Springs	84
Rosebud	310
Selma	100
Sherron Acres	1,650
Spring Hill	1,270
St. Mary's	1,505
Stancil's Chapel	797
Stoney Creek	2,250
Stony Hill	1,050
Trinity	6,775
Union Chapel	737
Union Grove	189
Unity (Durham)	77
Unity	225
Watson's Grove	135
Wilson, First	4,621
Durham, First	150
Living Waters	200
Mount Zion (Wilson)	175
Oak Grove	603
Gethsemane	
Mount Zion Sunday School (Nash)	357
Rosebud Auxiliary	35
St. Mary's Sunday School	106
Pine Level, Philea	55
Little Rock Auxiliary	60
Pleasant Grove Auxiliary	50
Fremont Layman's League	25
Kenly Auxiliary	90
New Sandy Hill Sunday School	225
Stancil's Chapel Sunday School	396
Union Grove Auxiliary	36
Union Grove Sunday School	437
Kenly Sunday School	10
Stony Hill Auxiliary	100
Flood's Chapel Auxiliary	8
Fremont Sunday School	420
Pine Level Sunday School	265
Piney Grove Sunday School	25
New Sandy Hill Auxiliary	76
	31
	25
Total Western Conference	$47,470

OTHER	$ 823
TOTAL REVENUE —CHURCHES	$164,384

MEMORIALS

From Mr. and Mrs. Patrick H. Lucas, Mrs. Sidney Cayton

From Mrs. Eula J. Phelps, Mrs. Alvester B. Willoughby

From Mrs. Josephine Pittman, Mrs. Sidney Cayton

From Mrs. Doris F. Davis, Amanda Raye Batts

From Kenly Auxiliary, Jesse Woodard

From Mrs. Mary S. Williams, Mrs. Fannie Swindell

(Continued on Page 14)

Endowment of the Week

THE WILLIAM ANDERSON AND CATHERINE RAINS BOYKIN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

The birthday of Mrs. Ella Boykin Boyette of Kenly was celebrated recently at Mount Olive College by her family and President and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper. Mrs. Boyette, who was on the original campus beautification committee for the College, was 94 years old on April 4. The combined age of Mrs. Boyette and her sisters (shown above) is 360 years. Pictured, from left to right, are Dr. Raper, Mrs. Boyette, Mrs. Carrena Boykin Williams of Pine Level, Mrs. Eva Boykin Williamson of Princeton, and Mrs. Sarah Catherine (Sadie) Boykin Peedin of Pine Level. Mrs. Williams is the wife of the late W. B. Williams, a Free Will Baptist minister.

The William Anderson and Catherine Rains Boykin Family Scholarship Endowment was established at Mount Olive College at a recent birthday celebration for Mrs. Ella Boykin Boyette, one of the six children of William and Catherine Boykin. The scholarship was established by the couple's family and friends "in appreciation for the Christian heritage William Boykin (died April 20, 1934) and his wife, Catherine Rains Boykin (died March 21, 1924) provided their children, church, and community."

The Boykins were members of Rain's Cross Roads Church in Johnston County. Scholarships from the endowment will be awarded to students who are preparing for the Christian ministry or who are members of Rain's Cross Roads Church.

The Boykin children who are members of Rain's Cross Roads Church are Mrs. Boyette and Mrs. Eva Williamson. Two of the other sisters, Mrs. Carrena Williams and Mrs. Sadie B. Peedin, are members of Pine Level Church. Another sister, Mrs. Anne Boykin Stichter, lives in Pottsville, Pennsylvania.

The first contributions to the Boykin Family Endowment were made in 1974 in memory of a brother, the Rev. William Guy Boykin (deceased March 1, 1974), who served as pastor of Saint Mary's Church in New Bern and of Pleasant Grove Church near Pikeville.

The fund currently has assets of $1,691, which will be invested according to the fiduciary policies established by the College Board of Trustees.

TRUSTEES TO MEET

The Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College will meet Tuesday, May 3, for a general session at 2:30 p.m. in Moye Library.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, AT MOC

Two important events will take place on the campus of Mount Olive College on Saturday, April 30.

Gospel Music Festival: A program of gospel music sponsored by the State Layman's League Convention will be presented at Eagle's Nest Conference Center from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Lunch will be catered by Wilber's Barbecue of Goldsboro at a cost of $3.75 per person.

1983 Alumni Meeting: A pig-picking for alumni and their families will begin at 4 p.m. with recreation in the area adjacent to the College Hall site near the dorms. Alumni who have not yet made their reservations are encouraged to return the reply form printed in the recent issue of the *Alumni Update* or contact The Alumni Office at (919) 658-2502. Cost for the meal to be served at 5:30 p.m. will be $2 for children and $3.50 for adults.

BAKER TO SPEAK

The Rev. Fred P. Baker, an alumnus of Mount Olive College, will be the speaker for the Commencement sermon on Sunday, May 1, at 8 p.m. in Rodgers Chapel (new campus).

At the present time, Mr. Baker is on an eleven-month furlough from the Republic of the Philippines, where he and his family serve as missionaries. He is the Philippine Field Director for the Board of Foreign Missions of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and the President of Palawan Bible Institute.

(Continued on Page 14)

For May 1

BREAKTHROUGH IN MACEDONIA

Lesson Text: Acts 16:9-18
Memory Verse: Galatians 3:28

I. INTRODUCTION

In World War II the American strategy after the Normandy landings was to break through the German lines surrounding the beachhead. Once the German lines were breached, the idea was to pour men and tanks as rapidly as possible across northern France. The strategy worked, and when the German defenses were pierced, the Allied tanks raced across France toward the Rhine. General George Patton was not far behind his lead tanks. On one occasion when he came upon two American tanks sitting by the roadside, he stopped to inquire why they were there rather than pushing on eastward. "Are you out of fuel?" he asked the commander of one of the tanks.

"Oh, no, Sir, we have plenty of fuel."

"Well, then, are your tanks broken down?"

"No, Sir, they are operating just fine."

"Why, then, are you sitting here?"

"Sir," responded the tank officer, "we can't go any farther. We have come to the edge of our map."

With that, the crusty general exploded!

"Map or no map, Berlin's that way! Now get in the tank and get going!"

In the account in today's lesson, Paul must have felt a bit like that tank commander. He had been forbidden repeatedly by the Holy Spirit to preach in Asia Minor, and so there he was in Troas at the edge of his map. But God quickly settled that problem. Through the vision of the Macedonian man, God in effect said, "The heathen needing the gospel are that way. Now take the next boat out and get going!"

Some churches and missionary committees apparently have also come to the edge of their maps, and so they go through the motions of supporting missions, but that is about all. Beyond the limited vision provided by our limited maps the Macedonian still stands and calls. Let's get going!

At the conclusion of the Jerusalem conference, studied in last week's lesson, messengers were sent to the church at Antioch to report its decision. The message that Gentile Christians would not have to conform to the Law of Moses was received there with rejoicing.

After Paul and Barnabas had spent some time in Antioch preaching and teaching, Paul proposed to Barnabas that they visit the churches that had been established on their first missionary journey. Barnabas agreed, but the proposal hit a snag when Barnabas wanted to take John Mark along with them. Because Mark had left them midway during the first journey, Paul was strongly opposed. The result was that the two split and went their separate ways, Barnabas and Mark going to Cyprus, and Paul and Silas going to Asia Minor.

At Lystra Paul added Timothy, a young man of Greek and Jewish parents, to his party. They traveled through Phrygia and Galatia, but Paul's plans to preach in the regions of Asia and Bithynia were cut short by the Holy Spirit. Thus the missionary party was led in a northwesterly direction through Asia Minor until they came to Troas. —*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. Paul must have had a feeling of discouragement when he was restrained by the Holy Spirit. But finally, he had this vision which was a call to come to Macedonia. Immediately, he went into Macedonia, and there he had great success in the work of the Lord. The first requisite for success in the work of the Lord is to follow His leadings.

B. Perhaps, the most important thing that happened to Paul on this entire missionary journey was the conversion of Lydia. Of course, God did not look upon her with any greater favor than He did others, but she was an influential woman, the first convert in Europe, and she was able and willing to help in the work there. It was through her help that the Philippian church was organized in her house.

C. In the last part of the lesson we see Paul casting a demon out of a young woman. This story shows us two very important things. First, the demon in her recognized that Paul and his companions were men of God. Even the demons know God. Second, God gives His servants power over demons.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Every Bible student has admired the women who worked and worshiped with Paul and his friends. Every church should be proud of its dedicated women, sometimes more dedicated to service than some men. A Sunday school teacher asked her class of young children about the creation of man. One child said, "Well, you see, first God created Adam. He looked at him for a while and said, 'I think if I tried again I could do better.' Then He created Eve."—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, MAY 1

Scripture Reading—Psalm 119:73-176

FATHER'S PRESENCE

Alexander Maclaren learned this truth when he accepted his first job in Glasgow. Just sixteen was he and his home was six miles from the big city. Between home and the city there was a deep ravine, supposedly haunted—terrible things happened there. He was afraid to go through there even in the daytime. On Monday morning his father walked with him to work and in parting said, "Alec, come home as fast as you can when you get off Saturday night." Thinking of the deep ravine, Maclaren replied, "Father, I will be awfully tired Saturday night. I will come home early Sunday morning." The father was adamant. "No, Alec, you have never been away from home before and these six days are going to seem like a year to me. Come home Saturday night." All the week, Alec worried about the ravine. On Saturday night, frightened, he packed his belongings and came to the edge of the ravine. Looking into the inky blackness, he could not move. Tears came. Then suddenly he heard footsteps. He started to run, but paused, for the footsteps were familiar. Out of the darkness came the grandest man on earth. The voice said, "Alec, I came to meet you." Alec reported, "Together we went into the valley and I was not afraid of anything that walked."

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me!

MONDAY, MAY 2

Scripture Reading—Psalm 120-138

THE LORD HIMSELF WAS WITH ME

Years ago a young missionary had to flee from western China. An infuriated mob hotly pursued him. He hastily boarded a river boat. The mob, too, came on the boat. Then he jumped into the river. The mob began to throw spears at him. Miraculously he escaped, unharmed. When he was telling of the ordeal later, a friend asked him, "What verse from the Bible came to you as you were darting beneath the boat to escape the spears of the mob?" "Verse?" he asked in astonishment, "Why, the Lord himself was with me!"

God is before me, He will be my Guide,
God is behind me, no ill can betide,
God is beside me, to comfort and cheer,
God is around me, so why should I fear?

TUESDAY, MAY 3

Scripture Reading—Psalms 139-150

IN QUIETNESS AND IN CONFIDENCE

A businessman once said: "Sometimes, after waking in the morning, I am appalled by the thought of all the duties and appointments that await me in the next eight or ten hours. Then I repeat to myself the words: 'In quietness and confidence shall be thy strength'; and, 'Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee, because be trusteth in thee.' It is astonishing how quickly the load is lifted when once I become aware of God's presence and help. The strain and tension go out of me and instead there wells up within me a feeling of serenity and peace."

We cannot hide from God, but we can hide in God: "Your life is hid with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3).

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 1-7

THE SECRET

A learned professor lived a Christlike, peaceful life. He exerted a profound influence upon his pupils. Wanting to learn the secret of his beautiful life, a student hid himself in the study of the professor. Entering his study at a late hour, and very weary from the day's toil, the professor opened his Bible, read therefrom for an hour and then knelt to pray. In his prayer, he said, "Well, Lord Jesus, we're still on the same terms!"

To know Christ intimately and practice His presence is the secret of a triumphant, radiant life.

All who thus know him shall "be strong, and do exploits" (Daniel 11:32).

THURSDAY, MAY 5

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 8-15

VERY NEAR

In the solace after pain,
In the sunshine after rain,
When you fail—but try again:
God is very near.

In the fruit upon the trees,
In a cool midsummer breeze;
In a baby at its birth,
Any place upon the earth;
In the smile that follows tears,
In the harvest of the years,
In the conquering of fears:
God is very near.

When you help someone in need
With a single kindly deed;
When of selfishness you're freed:
God is very near.

FRIDAY, MAY 6

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 16-21

IMAGINE JESUS IN A CHAIR

An old Scotsman lay very ill, and his minister came to visit him. As the minister sat down on a chair near the bedside, he noticed on the other side of the bed another chair placed at such an angle as to suggest that a visitor had just left it. "Well, Donald," said the minister, glancing at the chair, "I see I am not your first visitor." The Scotsman looked up in surprise, so the minister pointed to the chair. "Ah!" said the sufferer, "I'll tell you about that chair. Years ago I found it impossible to pray. I often fell asleep on my knees, I was so tired. And if I kept awake, I could not control my thoughts from wandering. One day I was so worried I spoke to my minister about it. He told me not to worry about kneeling down. 'Just sit down,' he said, 'and put a chair opposite you, imagine that Jesus is in it, and talk to Him as you would to a friend.' And," the Scotsman added, "I have been doing that ever since. So now you know why the chair is standing like that." A week later the daughter of the old Scot drove up to the minister's house and knocked at his door. She was shown into the study, and when the minister came in she could hardly restrain herself. "Father died in the night," she sobbed. "I had no idea death could be so near. I had just gone to lie down for an hour or two. He seemed to be sleeping so comfortably. And when I went back he was dead. He hadn't moved since I saw him before, *except that his hand was out on the empty chair at the side of his bed.* Do you understand?" "Yes," said the minister, "I understand."

All of God's giants have been weak men who did great things for God because they reckoned on His being with them. They counted on God's faithfulness.

SATURDAY, MAY 7

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 22-28

IT IS BETTER

It is better to walk in the dark with God
Than to run in the light alone;
Yes, better the thorniest path ever trod,
Where the briers are thick, and our feet unshod,
If only we follow His voice and rod,
Than without Him to march to a throne.

It is better with Him the billows dash high,
On the breast of the mad Galilee;
Though the Master may sleep, He will wake at our cry,
Or He'll come on the waves saying: "Peace, it is I."
Better this than a calm when He is not nigh,
Or without Him to sail a smooth sea.

"As we come into Thy presence" are often the opening words of the prayers of some of God's children. Where had they been? God's children are always in His presence: "My presence shall go with thee" (Exodus 33:14).

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

NEW WIND BLOWING

It seems there is a "new wind blowing" at Verona Church near Jacksonville. It reminds me of the wind which blew on the first church as they waited in the upper room—"And suddenly there came a sound from Heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting" (Acts 2:2). You hear the sound of the wind in the enthusiasm in the voices heard when we gather at the church singing and worshiping together. It's heard at meetings of the workers as they come together to complete the new building. When the ladies of the church pitch in and help in so many ways—painting as well as preparing the food each week—the wind seems to blow stronger at this time and has a mouth-watering effect. Verona Church is coming alive!

Easter Sunday was one of those significant days in the life of Verona Church—a time for new visions—a time for personal recommitment to the will and plan of God for our lives and the life of Verona Church. This was the first worship service held in the new church.

Joseph Pollock

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Jerry Rowe announces that he now has a new address: Route 5, Box 395, Newport, North Carolina 28570; phone 223-4750 (office) or 393-8890 (home).

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

The Rev. Fred P. Baker

The Bakers will be returning to the Philippines in June.

JENKINS TO SPEAK

Dr. Leo Jenkins, retired Chancellor of East Carolina University will be the speaker for graduation at Mount Olive College on Friday, May 6, at 6 p.m. The ceremony will take place on the library lawn.

Dr. Leo Jenkins

Dr. Jenkins is a special advisor to Governor Hunt and also the producer of *Tar Heel Portrait* on WITN-TV.

An Invitation to Free Will Baptists

The Board of Trustees, Faculty
and Graduating Class of
Mount Olive College
request the honor of your presence
at the
Twenty-eighth Commencement Exercises
Friday evening, May sixth
Nineteen hundred and eighty-three
six o'clock
Moye Library Lawn

CHURCH RELATIONS COMMITTEE MAKING PLANS FOR 1983

The Advisory Committee on Church Relations met recently on the campus of Mount Olive College to elect officers and make plans for 1983. Business transacted by the Committee included the selection of the schedule and theme for the Ministers' Institute, plans for meeting with the executive committees of both the State Woman's Auxiliary and the Free Will Baptist Layman's League, and a discussion of work experiences for Free Will Baptist ministerial students.

The Ministers' Institute is planned for Monday and Tuesday, August 8, 9. The theme for the Annual Conference will be "The Minister and His Health." Monday's seminar will deal with stress management.

The Committee also made plans to meet with the executive committees of the State Woman's Auxiliary and the Layman's League in order to explore how Mount Olive College can better serve the members of both organizations.

The Committee serves as a denominational advisory body to the Board of Trustees and Administration of the College on all matters regarding educational services to Original Free Will Baptists.

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 9)

From Mrs. Parthenia Goulding, D. R. Tilghman

From Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Ginn, Mrs. Helen S. Harrell

From Miss Elizabeth Storms, Mary E. West

From Mr. and Mrs. Roy P. Rernhardt, Mr. and Mrs. Beavern, Mrs. Deal, the Rev. Louis L. Therrell

HONORARIUMS

From Mrs. Lucy Day, David and Madora Day

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 6)

and propel the boat with long poles. The tide was very low. Ten minutes later we arrived at Bahili. Well, we almost arrived. The low tide and stranded boats kept us from reaching our desired destination. We unloaded the bike on the blackest, muddiest, slimiest riverbank you ever imagined. Getting clear and on the hill was an adventure in itself.

After refreshments and refueling we headed home. In a little over one hour we were home. Mission accomplished. Thanks be to God!

The pastor is nearly fully recovered. The Gawid believers are constructing a chapel building. Our young missionaries are well. Others in the general area are begging for the gospel witness. To God be the glory!

Now life is again routine. Articles, budgets, books, school, students, church, and family all clamor for my attention.

A missionary's life. Dull? Never! Adventuresome? At times. By the grace of God? Always! The best way to find out is to answer God's call upon your life. Come.

Yes, "the fields are white unto harvest." Oh how I wish it were not so that "the laborers are few." What are you going to do about it? Jesus said that we are to "pray." Will you do your part?

Charles Barnard

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

INVITATION

The North Carolina Free Will Baptist
Laymen's League Convention
Cordially Invites You to Attend

a

FESTIVAL OF GOSPEL MUSIC

Saturday, April 30, 1983
Beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Lunch will be catered by Wilber's of Goldsboro
($3.75 per plate)

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

★ THE COLLIE SINGERS
NASHVILLE, N. C.

★ THE HOPPER BROTHERS AND CONNIE
MADISON, N. C.

★ THE WATCHMEN
GOLDSBORO, N. C.

★ THE HALL SISTERS

★ THE DOWN EAST BOYS
POTTER'S HILL, N. C.

★ THE NEW CREATIONS
MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

★ THE NEW LIFE SINGERS
WILSON, N. C.

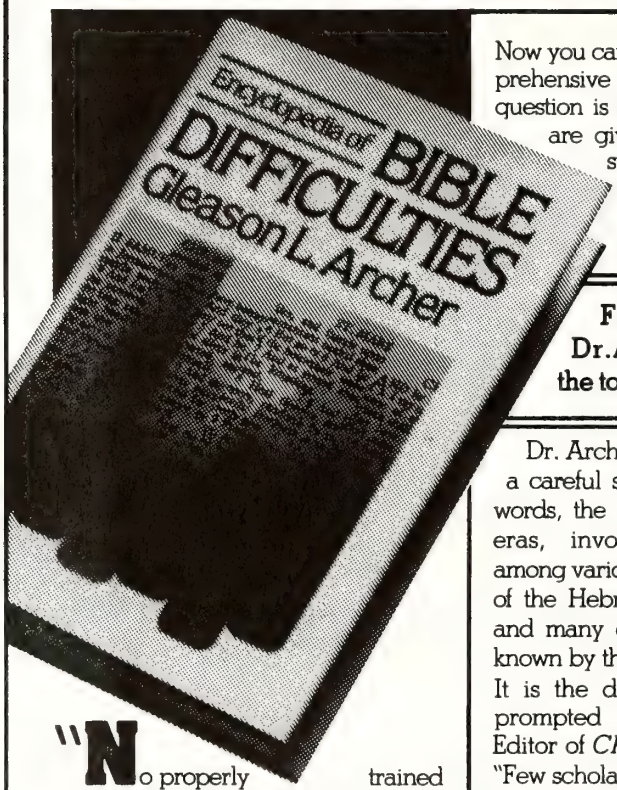
★ THE SENTINELS
DURHAM, N. C.

In case of inclement weather, the festival will be held at the Mount Olive Junior High School auditorium.

TOUGH QUESTIONS

ABOUT THE BIBLE

YOU CAN HAVE THE ANSWERS WITH GLEASON L. ARCHER'S MONUMENTAL NEW BOOK...



"No properly trained evangelical scholar has anything to fear from the hostile arguments and challenges of humanistic rationalists or detractors of any and every persuasion. There is a good and sufficient answer in Scripture itself to refute every charge that has ever been leveled against it."—Gleason L. Archer

That belief enables Gleason L. Archer to tackle the toughest questions of the Bible. And that belief is fortified by experience. For over thirty years Dr. Archer has been taking the tough questions—from seminarians, from people in pews, from thousands who avidly follow his column in Billy Graham's *Decision* magazine. Ancient Semitic language and on-site archaeological investigations have equipped Dr. Archer for such a formidable task.

Now you can have his insight in comprehensive 448 page volume. Each question is fully discussed. Answers are given in a straightforward style that is understood by all, yet the answers are detailed and complete-never superficial.

For over thirty years Dr. Archer has been taking the tough questions.

Dr. Archer's answers are based on a careful study of the meanings of words, the cultural context of Bible eras, involved interrelationships among various peoples, a knowledge of the Hebrew numbering systems, and many other details not readily known by the average Bible reader. It is the depth of this study that prompted Kenneth S. Kantzer, Editor of *Christianity Today* to say: "Few scholars are so uniquely equipped in their command of ancient languages and of the tools of biblical scholarship as is Dr. Archer. In addition to his own integrity as a scholar, he is a dedicated student of Scripture and a trustworthy guide for those who wish to understand Scripture better.

"...this book will prove immensely valuable to many earnest Christians".

His book will be a rich gold mine for those who hold to the inerrancy of Scripture and who need help in seeking to bring that conviction into harmony both with what they read in the Bible and the facts of the empirical world about them. I believe this book will prove immensely valuable to many earnest Christians and I heartily commend it to the church and all serious Bible students."

Get Answers, Pick up *Encyclopedia of Bible Difficulties* at a bookstore near you (in cloth).

- Easy to use
- Scripture passages are discussed in the order of their appearance in the Bible
- Complete index to: Scripture references, Subjects, People
- Comprehensive bibliography for those who wish further study on a particular verse or subject.
- Special section on "How to Deal with Bible Difficulties".

Gleason L. Archer, Jr., is Professor of Old Testament and Semitic Studies, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois. He holds the following degrees: B.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary, LL.B. from Suffolk University Law School, and Ph.D. from Harvard Graduate School. He served as a pastor for a number of years; was Professor of Biblical Languages and Acting Dean at Fuller Theological Seminary; and taught Arabic studies in Beirut, Lebanon. He has written several books, including *In The Shadow of The Cross, The Epistle to The Romans, The Epistle to The Hebrews,* and *Survey of Old Testament Introduction.*

Available through the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and its branch bookstores—New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston and Whiteville.

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

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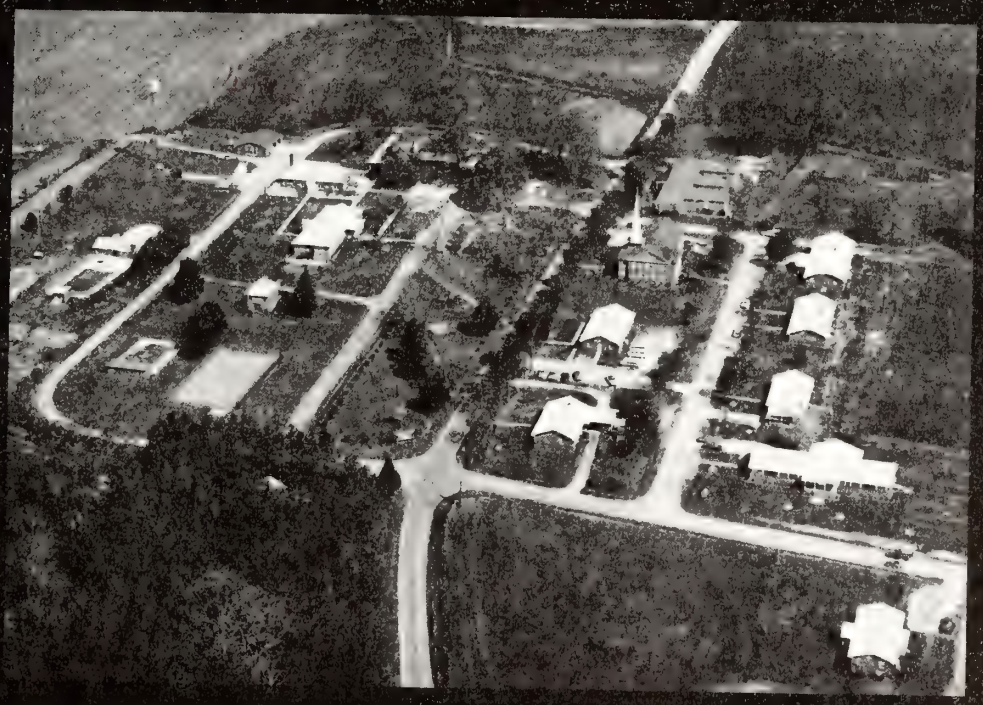

Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc.

"A Christian Home for Boys and Girls"

MIDDLESEX

The Free Will Baptist

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May 4, 1983
Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

Leaks and All

A friend of mine could not grow a beautiful lawn because the heat of the Florida sun was too much for his grass. The only solution he could reach was to install an underground sprinkler system.

Undaunted when he could not secure a plumber, the gentleman (with the help of his children) dug up his yard. Endless miles of PVC pipe were laid. An abundance of tape, glue, and clamps was used to hook everything up. A helpful neighbor gave the man a rebuilt three-quarter-horsepower pump, which he hooked to a pipe and ran to a lake in his backyard. The job was technically interesting but not fun.

As one might expect, something was always wrong with the system, but the main trouble related to the fact that the water was not evenly distributed throughout the yard; and unless there was a strong east wind, a portion of the yard never got wet.

After fiddling with the old system for three years, the gentleman went out and bought a new two-horsepower pump. He ran a larger intake pipe and installed the new pump. The moment of truth came when he flipped on the switch and stood back to watch. The pump whirled into life and there was water—what an understatement!

The old system, held together with glue, rotten tape, and rusty clamps, had been sufficient for the smaller pump; however, the glue, rotting tape, and rusty clamps were totally inadequate for the new system which exerted twice the pressure. Water squirted everywhere. Underground connections burst loose and erupted in the yard like geysers, blowing dirt and grass up with them. The tape peeled off the exposed connections—and they sent out streams of water. Tiny pinholes in the pipes, which heretofore had not been obvious, suddenly opened and water sprayed in all directions. Loose sprinkler heads were thrown high in the air as the water rushed upward. The flaws, blemishes, and defects, which had remained unnoticed, were suddenly exposed as a new power surged through them.

Let's compare this with the Christian life. Many Christians who take themselves too seriously give the impression that once they are saved all their problems are solved; they seem to think people move from mountaintop to mountaintop. They forget that to reach mountaintops we often have to crawl through some mighty rough valleys. Some Christians are shocked to realize that they are still capable of losing their tempers; they do not realize that old weaknesses may still be around (but new power is theirs with which they can overcome). Why, they may even be tempted occasionally to throw up their hands and quit!

The spiritual power that belongs to Christians often exposes our defects and flaws; sometimes it causes us to "leak" all over the place—often in front of everyone. In the process we are taught patience and humility; but this "leaking" may cause non-Christians to say, "If that's the way a Christian

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CHRISTIANITY IN ACTION

INTRODUCTION: The Free Will Baptist Children's Home stands today as a memorial to the vision, dedication, labors and faithfulness of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina for more than a half century. It had its inception several years prior to its beginning. It is now passing the golden anniversary milestones of its history.

In the years 1910 through 1915, some of our leading Free Will Baptists became interested in providing a home for homeless boys and girls of our state. Men and women from various conferences and associations, which embraced the entire state, saw this great need. They began to advocate building a home to provide care for children who needed help. The various conferences and associations were joined together in the formation of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists in the year 1913. It was only natural that the matter of a home for children should become the first statewide project of the newly formed State Convention.

In its second annual session, held in historic St. Mary's Church of New Bern, the State Convention adopted a formal resolution pledging itself to the conviction that Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina should take steps to locate a place and build a child-caring home. The Convention requested its member conferences and associations to consider this matter in their fall sessions and report back to the Convention the next year. As a result of the consideration given this matter during the year and the favorable reports given to the State Convention in its third annual session, held at Shady Grove Church, Sampson County, in September 1915, the Convention pledged itself to build a child-caring home. A Board of Trustees was officially elected on September 15, 1915, and instructed to proceed with this project.

The first Board of Trustees was composed of Elders J. F. Casey and W. R. Coates of the Cape Fear Conference; Elder M. C. Prescott of the Eastern Conference; Elder J. E. Davis of the Western Conference and Brother W. J. Braxton of the Central Conference. These men served faithfully for five years and were rewarded by seeing this Home become a reality.

THE BIRTH OF A HOME: Although the State Convention had committed itself to building a Home and had elected a Board of Trustees, the undertaking was really just beginning. There was not, at this time, any money provided or any land donated for a site. However, the newly elected Board of Trustees began their work immediately following the session of the State Convention. The first step was to select a location. Several sites throughout the State were offered and recommended. The Board visited all of the proposed sites and and talked with the people of the various communities. They finally decided upon the present location which is in southern Nash County, about two miles north of the town of Middlesex. On January 1, 1916, the Board accepted a gift of fifty (50) acres of land donated by Elder B. B. Deans of Middlesex. There was one frame dwelling and several small farm outbuildings located on this site.

The land now having been donated, the Board turned its attention to building plans, the exact location of buildings and raising building funds. By early 1917 building plans were near enough completed and enough money had been given and promised so that the Board felt safe in beginning actual construction on the first building. This was a large three-story building with a full basement. It had thirty-one large rooms and, together with a utility building erected nearby and the frame building already on the site, was to house all departments until a boys' dormitory was built in 1925.

Progress on the first building program was very slow and somehow discouraging because of the lack of funds. However, those who were in charge refused to give up and continued to go ahead "on faith." Their faith was rewarded when, in early 1920, it was felt the Home could soon open. The first applications for admission of children were approved February 11, 1920, and the first children, Nellie, Helen, Dorothy, and Carl Whitley, were admitted on May 23, 1920. Thus, what had been only a vision and desire five years earlier was now a reality. The Free Will Baptist Children's Home (Orphanage) had been born out of the faith and determination of its founders.

(Turn the Page)

FIFTY-SEVEN FRUITFUL YEARS: Following the opening of the Children's Home (Orphanage) in 1920, it was soon realized that additional facilities were needed if the Home was to fully meet the needs of the children for whom applications for admission were being made. In 1925, a two-story boys' dormitory, consisting of sixteen rooms was built. It was also realized that more land was needed. The adjoining tract of one hundred eleven acres was purchased, making a total of one hundred sixty-one acres.

The great depression of the early 1930s proved a time of severe testing for the Children's Home. Not only was it impossible to add new buildings and other needed facilities, it was most difficult to even provide the absolute necessities to keep the Home going. The very fact that the Home did not have to close its doors is in itself a testimony to the dedication and determination of the superintendents and staff who served during those years and to the loyal friends of the Home who shared their limited funds in order that the Home could keep its doors open.

In 1940, the present food service building (Central Dining Hall) was built. This building still provides adequate kitchen and dining space and, for many years, provided administrative office space. In 1944, the adjoining Massey farm consisting of two hundred acres, was purchased, making a total of three hundred and sixty-one acres. Through later land trades and a survey in 1973, the total acreage came to slightly more than 400 acres.

The decade of the 1950s saw the Children's Home campus experience a real face-lifting. In 1951, the old boys' dormitory was replaced by the Albemarle Cottage, and in the 1970s the Albemarle Cottage was divided into two cottages called Albemarle I and II. The beautiful and spacious church, Memorial Chapel, was completed in 1952. A new girls' building consisting of two cottages was finished in 1953. These were later named Smith and Deans Cottages. A new laundry building was started in 1956 and completed early in 1957. A new superintendent's home was built in 1957 and the old frame dwelling, which had served as the superintendent's home, was moved to a new location and renovated to house other workers. The present administration building, French Broad Building, was built in 1958, and a large upright water tank was erected in 1959.

The decade of the 1960s saw further additions and expansions. A nice swimming pool was built in 1962. In 1964, our State Convention approved a five-year Golden Anniversary Development Program which had as its goal, "A Home properly equipped and adequately staffed to serve 100 children by May 23, 1970." As a part of this development program, a large cottage for teenage boys and a large staff residence were completed in 1966. These were later named the Rodgers Cottage and the Dawson House, respectively. A nice one-family dwelling to replace the old frame building was completed in July of 1967 and was named the Parker House. A new cottage for teenage girls (Central Cottage) was completed in the spring of 1968.

This brought the capacity of the Home up to one hundred children. At the completion of the Golden Anniversary Development Program in 1970, the physical plant was worth approximately $600,000.

The decade of the 1970s brought changes in the living style and further building construction. In 1970, the Home was converted to family-style living by installing kitchen and laundry facilities in each cottage. At this time the capacity was changed to reflect adequate space for 72 children, each of the six cottage accommodating 12 children. In 1971, a new dwelling was commenced and completed in November, which now houses the Director of Family Services.

In 1973, a new storehouse and maintenance shop was constructed on the service road behind the Central Dining Hall. At the end of the year, a combination tennis and basketball court was under construction.

In 1974, the old superintendent's house, maintenance shop and smokehouse were torn down. The laundry was rebuilt after being destroyed by fire the previous August. The front half of the new laundry was converted into a Recreation Center for the children. During this year each dwelling on campus, the office and the church was air-conditioned for the health and comfort of the children. Also during this year a combination tennis-basketball court was completed and placed in use (Alumni project).

In the summer and fall of 1974, the Albemarle I Cottage was thoroughly renovated and was renamed the Albemarle Cottage. A new cottage, named the State Cottage, constructed on the southeast corner of the campus, replaced the Albemarle II Cottage. The Albemarle II Cottage was closed as a cottage and converted into a much-needed Education Center. At the close of 1974 the physical plant at the Children's Home was valued at slightly over $1,000,000.

During 1975, thirty acres of land were cleared and seeded for pasture. Also, thirty acres of land were reseeded with pine trees. Much work was done to the interior of Smith and Deans Cottages throughout this year.

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STATE YOUTH CONVENTION TO MEET

The North Carolina State Youth Convention will meet at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina, May 13-15, 1983. This convention is the first weekend conference for Original Free Will Baptist youth. The scheduled program is as follows:

FRIDAY

5:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.—Registration, Main Building
6:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.—Supper
7:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.—Variety Program, Downtown Campus, Auditorium (12 Minutes per District)
9:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.—Refreshments
10:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.—Vesper, Don Ribiero

SATURDAY

8:00 a.m.- 9:30 a.m.—Breakfast
9:30 a.m.—All Art and Crafts to Be in the Hands of the Judges at the Henderson Building
10:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.—Art and Crafts, Displays of Denominational Enterprises
10:00 a.m.—Downtown Campus, Auditorium, Bible Bowl Contest Lizzie Dawson, Quizmaster
10:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m.—Christian Writing, Henderson Building
11:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.—Public Speaking, Henderson Building
11:30 a.m.-12:00 a.m.—Lesson Presentation, Henderson Building
12:00 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.—Lunch
1:00 p.m.—Registration, Junior High School, Mount Olive
1:30 p.m.—Sing Along
1:35 p.m.—Devotion, Roy Lewis, State Youth Convention President
—Offering
2:00 p.m.—State Youth Chairman, Recognition of Officers, Chairmen, Advisors, and Remarks
—Business
—Secretary's Report
—State Youth Project Report
—Registration Committee Report
—Old Business
—New Business
—Youth Project 1983
—Report from AFC and YFA Camp Weeks at Cragmont
—Treasurer's Report
2:40 p.m.—Recognition of Winners
3:00 p.m.—Refreshments
4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.—Choir Practice, Chapel
6:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.—Supper
7:30 p.m.—Program, Special Musical Guest, Howard Lovett
9:00 p.m.—Refreshments
10:00 p.m.—Devotions in Dorms by District Youth Chairmen and Advisors

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m.- 9:30 a.m.—Breakfast
10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.—Worship Service, Chapel, Speaker, James Cahoon
—Testimony, "What Did the Weekend Mean to You?"
—Prayer

A special guest for the meeting is Howard Lovett. Howard Lovett concert programs consist of a pleasing variety of traditional hymns, and contemporary Christian music, along with short humorous sketches and personal testimony which provide an interesting and meaningful program to a wide range of tastes, musical interests and age groups. A full orchestral background recorded especially for Howard is featured in every performance and is tastefully controlled through sophisticated sound equipment. Guitar accompaniment is also used on some numbers. Every song, every spoken word is for the purpose of reaching the lost

Howard Lovett

for Christ and bringing God's children into a closer relationship with Him.

Another exciting happening during the convention will be the formation of a statewide youth choir. Ministers and youth leaders who know of young people who would like to participate in the choir should contact Janie Jones Sowers by writing her at Route 1, Box 106-B, Farmville, NC 27828; or by calling her at (919) 753-4260.

Core Point Church Announces Revival Services

Core Point Church, Route 1, Blount's Creek, North Carolina, will hold its spring revival, beginning May 9 and will continue through May 13. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The speaker of the hour will be the Rev. Charles Richardson. The Rev. Timothy Webber is the pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Lay Revival Services at Casey's Chapel Church

Casey's Chapel Church experienced something new and wonderful during its three-day spring revival. The laymen of the church were given the opportunity to share with the community their love of God and Casey's Chapel.

On Monday night, Shelton Rhodes was the speaker.

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Shelton has been an active member of Casey's Chapel Church for over ten years. He has served on the deacon board, taught an adult Sunday school class, and in the absence of the pastor has been responsible for Bible study. His message was entitled "Imitation Religion." His text was taken from Matthew 23. "Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also."

Carlyle Owens was speaker on Tuesday night. He has been a Sunday school teacher for sixteen years and is currently teaching an adult class. Carlyle has served in many capacities in his church, as YFA leader, choir member, Sunday school superintendent, and is currently serving on the deacon board and pastoral committee. In the absence of the pastor, Carlyle has on occasions held the morning worship service. Carlyle's message on "Brotherly Love" was a blessing to all. Everyone was reminded that God said, "This is my commandment that ye love one another, as I have loved you."

Wednesday night proved to be a special night. Dr. Robert Getchell, a visiting layman, was speaker. Dr. Getchell has been a Gideon for many years serving God wherever he is led. He gave his personal testimony that touched the heart of everyone in attendance.

The choir was under the direction of Grace Casey and Howard Thompson. They presented music each evening. The Rev. and Mrs. Bryant Hines and Lora Brown also sang during Monday evening's service. Joyce Thompkins, from a neighboring church, New Hope Friends, presented a special message in song on Tuesday night.

On behalf of Casey's Chapel a special thanks goes to the laymen for their love and support to the church.

Fourth Central Union Meeting to Be Held

The Fourth Central Union Meeting will be held at Otter's Creek Church near Macclesfield, on May 29, 1983. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

10:00 A.M.—Sunday School
11:00 A.M.—Hymn, "When We All Get to Heaven"
—Welcome, R. A. Hamilton
—Response, Anthony Cannon
11:15 A.M.—President's Remarks
—Greetings from the Children's Home
—Mount Olive College Report
—Missions Report
11:30 A.M.—Special Music, Dilda's Grove Church
—Sermon, the Rev. Ralph Aycock

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15 P.M.—Hymn, "Love Lifted Me"
—Devotion, Mr. Preston Radford
—Committee Reports
—Program by Local Church
2:15 P.M.—Adjournment of Today's Business

Marlboro Church Plans Meetings

A series of revival services will begin at Marlboro Church, Route 1, Farmville, on Sunday evening, May 8, and continue through Wednesday, May 11. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Harold Jones, director of the North Carolina State Convention Foreign Missions program. Mr. Jones will be assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Scott Sowers.

The Sunday evening service will begin at 7 p.m. The remainder will begin at 7:30 p.m. Special music will be featured nightly.

The pastor and the church congregation cordially invite everyone to attend these meetings.

State Woman's Auxiliary Convention to Meet

The 56th Session of the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene May 12, with Cathedral Church near Durham. It will be hosted by the Piedmont District Auxiliary Convention. The theme will be "To God Be the Glory." The theme Scripture was taken from 1 Chronicles 16:24. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Advanced Registration
10:00—Hymn
—Invocation
—Morning Devotion, Mrs. Rachel Lampley, Highland Church
10:20—Words of Welcome, Mrs. Laura Lassiter, Host Church
—Response, Virginia Joyner
10:25—President's Message, Mrs. Happy Taylor
10:30—Recognition of Personalities
10:35—Business Session
10:45—Life Membership Award, Mrs. C. L. Patrick
11:15—Morning Worship
—Hymn
—Offering
—Special Music, Mrs. Rachel Lampley and Mrs. Carolyn Bennette
—Convention Message, Mrs. Sandra Jones and Mrs. Linda Baker

AFTERNOON SESSION

—Lunch
1:00—Hymn
—Memorial Service, Mrs. Marie Glenn
1:30—Miscellaneous Business
—Report of Committees
—Benediction
—Adjournment

Camp Vandemere News

The Bridgeton Church, Bridgeton, and Saints Delight Church, New Bern, held a joint rally and fish fry for Camp Vandemere, on Saturday, March 26, 1983, and raised over $600 for Camp Vandemere. A special thanks goes to each of these churches.

On Saturday, March 26, 1983, the Vanceboro area churches had a fund-raising dinner for Camp Vandemere. They were successful in meeting their goal of $2,000. A great big thanks goes to these area churches.

Be sure to look in *The Free Will Baptist* concerning the biggest drive ever put on for Camp Vandemere at Vandemere, North Carolina.

Attention children of all ages! Now is the time for all children to ask Mom and Dad to let them spend a week at Camp Vandemere. Camp Vandemere is not only a place where one can receive the best training, it is also a place where one can have some of the best Christian recreation offered anywhere. Remember Mom and Dad, these boys and girls will be in good hands where Christ is always at the top of the priority list.

HOME MISSIONS

KEY OF EXCELLENCE PLAQUES PRESENTED

On Sunday morning, March 20, Charles Crisp, the Home Missions Director, visited the Holly Springs Church of Newport. He taught the young married Sunday school class and preached in the morning service. At the close of the service, Mr. Crisp presented Holly Springs Church a "Key of Excellence Plaque." The plaque is presented to those churches who contribute $1,200 or more per year to support Home Missions. The Holly Springs Church is to be congratulated for its excellent support. The Rev. Jerry Rowe is pastor of this fine church. The Holly Springs Church is a loyal supporter of all denominational enterprises.

On Sunday evening, March 20, the Rev. Charles Crisp, the Home Missions Director, presented Hull Road Church of Snow Hill with a "Key of Excellence Plaque." The plaque is presented to these churches who contribute $1,200 or more per year to Home Missions. The Hull Road Church is to be congratulated for its excellent support to Home Missions. The Rev. Leon Grubbs is the pastor of this fine church. The Hull Road Church is a loyal supporter of all denominational work.

ANNOUNCING STATE LEAGUE CONVENTION WINNERS

Kevin Dilday

Jennifer Malpass

Sharon Trivette

Dale Clary

Tina Wetherington

The State League Convention winners are announced.

Sword Drill Winners (juniors): first place, Kevin Dilday, Hickory Chapel Church, Ahoskie; second place (tied) Jennifer Malpass, First Church, Goldsboro; second place (tied) Elaine Smith (not pictured), Winterville Church, Winterville.

Sword Drill Winners (intermediates): first place, Sharon Trivette, First Church, Goldsboro; second place, Dale Clary, Hickory Chapel Church, Ahoskie; third place, Tina Wetherington, Moseley's Creek Church, Dover.

The Sword Drill, First Place Winners, will receive an all-expense paid trip and the second place winners will receive a half-paid trip to Cragmont.

The 1984 sword drills have been mailed. Any youth group may have a contestant (junior 9-11, intermediate 12-15) at the convention. The registration fee is $15. I will be happy to mail you a copy.

The 1984 State League Convention will be held March 10, at Beaverdam Church, near Whiteville.

Any church wishing to organize a training program for those special young people and/or adults, I will be glad to assist them.

Camp Vandemere winner will win a free trip offered by the camp. The winner was Dean L. Jones, age 12, Route 2, Box 364, Roper, North Carolina.

The 1983 State League Convention collected the names of the youth present at the convention. Later a name was drawn and declared the winner. I am so thankful and proud of these young people.

Margaret Ard
Route 1
Pink Hill, North Carolina 28572
Phone, 568-4685

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

A teaching method which can be used effectively, especially with junior highs through adults, is some form of discussion. It can also be adjusted for use with children. During the next few weeks we will be considering various aspects of the discussion method and how it can be used to improve learning.

What is discussion? Discussion can be seen as a means for persons together to examine problems or subjects through the sharing of their opinions, ideas, knowledge, and experiences. Discussion is based on the truth expressed in Carl Sandburg's statement, "Everybody is smarter than anybody." Discussion is a means of tapping the resources of knowledge and experience from each person. Just consider how much we have learned and can learn from the experiences of just one person. How much greater is the potential for learning when we gather as a group to share our knowledge and experiences!

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REFLECTIONS

Charles Barnard

March 15, 1983, marked one complete year of ministry in the Philippines for the Barnard family. Many things have been accomplished and many more remain to be done. Personally, I have experienced many changes in my life. I would like to share some recollections with you.

I remember the confusion and excitement caused by our arriving in Puerto Princesa City ahead of schedule. Brother Fred and our National Pastors were in the midst of a city-wide Pastors' Conference on Evangelism. I am sure he was suspicious of the ragtag group of weary travelers he was summoned to greet.

Then came the days of meeting new friends, orientation, and settling into our new home. Methods, manners, and materials were all so new to us. A great feeling of inadequacy and apprehension swept over me. Could I possibly manage a whole year without Fred's experienced shoulders to lean on? I wasn't too sure.

Before leaving on furlough, Fred and Linda did everything possible to see that we were firmly established and prepared for the year ahead. Again, great swells of fear engulfed me. Loneliness quickly followed the last good-bye.

My greatest mistake was to allow this loneliness and fear to take root. It did not take long for me to convince myself that my fears were justified. The job was just too big for one family. The Bakers' leaving had left, what I considered, an unfillable void. Family sicknesses and cultural frustrations came. These left me tired and depressed. My hold was slipping.

Shanna's departure to attend school at Faith Academy in Manila came at the same time as the Bakers' departure for the States. Classes had already begun at Palawan Bible Institute. Life became frantic, to say the least. I've not been able to complain about lack of variety. On the mission field there is never a dull moment. So many people and things were calling for my attention. I kept asking myself, "How did Fred do it?" "What was his secret?"

All the while it seemed as if I were on a roller coaster. One day everything was under control and moving ahead smoothly. The next day it seemed as if the world was falling down around my head. Hospital bills, emergency trips to Manila, discipline problems at home, school, and office were my sad lot. I was feeling sorry for myself. Where was Fred when I needed him most?

I began to resent Fred's absence. Even his ministry. It seemed he had laid a foundation upon which I could not build. Confusion and hopelessness became my constant companions.

Another source of complaints has been the mail system. The wait for answers to important questions became unbearable. I feared that my confusion was being noticed through my letters and reports. I had lost confidence in myself. Would the Mission Board sense this and also lose confidence? I was ready to give up. But, what else could I do? I know this is where God wants me. Any place else would be far worse.

There is a bright side to all of this. Praise God! He uses fire (trials) to burn up the wood, hay, and stubble in our lives. This process purifies the gold (faith) and silver (spiritual fruits) that remain. God himself has filled the void in my life.

I finally discovered Fred's secret. It wasn't a secret at all. It had always been right before me. Fred must have experienced these same feelings in his life several years before. I was unable to build upon his foundation because he had not laid one. As a matter of fact my job is not to build, only to serve. The Free Will Baptist Church Philippines is Christ's, not mine. In Matthew 16:18 Jesus plainly states that He will build His Church.

As Jackie and I have begun to evaluate our lives and ministry this past year we have found that whatever fears we have suffered have been the result of our not casting all our cares upon Him. Even when we have not given them to Him He has made a way for us to go on. We clearly see His blessings upon our lives and ministry.

Shanna is much better. Our home life is better than ever before. The Philippine Church is growing steadily in all areas. Innumerable prayers have been offered on our behalf. God has answered. Hundreds of you, our brethren, have written words of encouragement and hope. The Foreign Missions Board has stood behind us with many key decisions of support for the work here. We are of all people most blessed!

Best of all, Fred, Linda, Kim, and Stevie will soon be back with us. Realizing this will be only a few months away makes the time pass quickly. I like to think of their return in terms of weeks, even days.

As I try to summarize and analyze all these emotional and physical changes and their impact upon our lives I understand anew that ours is not an isolated case. Anyone who answers God's call to leave home for a foreign land will experience a tremendous time of testing known as "Culture Shock." The Revs. Jones, King, and Baker and their families will attest to this fact. In every instance the cure is the same—liberal amounts of prayer, Bible study, and the proper setting of priorities. Our Lord said it for us in Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

We acknowledge our indebtedness to each of you who have been so faithful in praying for us. Without you we could not go on. Please do not let down your vigil of prayer. Your missionaries cannot survive without it.

Charles Barnard

NOTE OF THANKS

We, the members of Gospel Outreach Church, Jasper, North Carolina, would like to say thank you to the Rev. Bobby Brown and his family for their dedication and services while they were part of our church family. Our best wishes and prayers go with you and may the Lord give you many souls for your labor. As you begin a new work for the Lord at Shiloh Church, we pray for only goodness and mercy to follow you all the days of your lives. Again, thank you and may the Lord bless you all.

Members of Gospel Outreach Church

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. N. D. Wiggs announces that he is available for first and third Sundays beginning July 1. He may be reached at 23 Crescent Drive, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; phone 522-3702.

CAMP VANDEMERE WOMAN'S CONFERENCE

June 13-17

Theme: "In His Presence"

Exodus 33:14: ". . . My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest."

Rudene Kennedy—Bible Teacher
Margaret Ard—Woman of the Year Chairman
Annie Bell Hines—Music Director
Hazel Stilley, Louise Bryan—Craft Chairmen
Nina Register, Happy Taylor—Directors

Our day will begin with breakfast at 8 a.m., devotion at 9 a.m., and music at 10:30 a.m. After lunch—crafts, and Mount Olive College ministerial students will speak at the 4 p.m. worship hour.

On Tuesday, representatives from the Denominational Enterprises are invited.

At 10 a.m. on Wednesday, the Rev. Dwight Hawley, Rock of Zion Church, will take the group for a tour into historic Oriental and lunch on the waterfront. We shall return to campus by 5 p.m. for talent time.

Thursday is "Mission Day" with Deborah King in charge. "Women of the Year" will be honored at 3 p.m. and also at the 8 p.m. service.

The highlight of the day will be the 8 p.m. services when Rudene Kennedy will lead a Bible study on the Holy Spirit. We invite all churches to come and share these services with the campers.

If you cannot spend the entire week—come for the day. The cost for a full week is $40; for day campers, the cost will be for meals.

Come and see what our camp is like.

REGISTRATION

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ Church _____

Registration is $10 with balance due on arrival.

DAY CAMPERS ONLY

Name _____

Address _____ Church _____

Days Planning to Attend: _____

Send to: Happy Taylor
Route 1, Box 187
Deep Run, North Carolina 28525
Phones: 523-9644
658-4933

We are excited about this conference. There are many services and activities planned that we know will be a spiritual blessing to you. I ask that you pray for our Conference, then come and share this special week to study, fellowship and worship.

IF YOU HAVE NOT REGISTERED, PLEASE DO SO NOW!

Nina and I are looking forward to seeing you at camp.

Happy

HIGH SCHOOL DAY

These Johnston County students were among approximately 250 high school students, parents, and pastors who attended Spring High School Day at Mount Olive College. They were accompanied by the Rev. Donald Coates, pastor of Pine Level Church. From left to right, they are Pam Crocker from Pine Level, Dianne Creech from Kenly, Lee Creech from Pine Level, and Lisa Watson from Pine Level.

Endowment of the Week

THE RAYMOND T. AND HILDA B. SASSER ENDOWMENT

The Rev. and Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser

The Sasser Endowment was established in 1980 by the Rev. and Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser of Wilson, North Carolina, as an expression of their commitment to Christian higher education. The Endowment is composed of gifts Mr. and Mrs. Sasser make from time to time along with contributions from members of their family, including a bequest from Mr. Sasser's mother.

Income from the Endowment is used to support the general purposes of Mount Olive College as an educational institution sponsored by Original Free Will Baptists.

Mr. Sasser is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Sasser of Selma, who were charter members of Selma Church. As a layman, Raymond was an accountant but following his call to the ministry he was ordained by the Western Conference on July 27, 1955, and remained an active minister for approximately twenty-five years until he retired for reasons of health.

His first pastorate was the Tarboro Church where he served for seventeen years, followed by pastorates at Stony Hill (Nash County), Rose of Sharon (Martin County), and Pleasant Plain (Johnston County). Both as a layman and as a minister, Mr. Sasser is a recognized leader in Sunday school work, having held the office of President of the State Sunday School Convention for seventeen years. Currently, he is serving his second term on the Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College.

Mrs. Sasser, the former Hilda Gray Batten of Johnston County, is a well-known Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary leader. She has served as treasurer of the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention for twenty-three years and as recording secretary for six years.

The Sassers have two children, Raymond Travis Sasser Jr. of Winston-Salem, an alumnus of Mount Olive College; and W. Gray Sasser of Selma. They also have two granddaughters, Tracy Lynn and Kristen Leigh Sasser.

Following the retirement of Mr. Sasser from the full-time ministry, the Sassers established their home at 517 Westover Avenue, Wilson, North Carolina, where Mr. Sasser maintains a beautiful yard garden. Their membership is now with the First Church of Wilson.

SUMMER SCHOOL AT MOC

Two three-week sessions will be offered this summer at Mount Olive College. Session A, which is primarily for students already enrolled at Mount Olive College, will begin May 16 and continue through June 3. Session B, which begins June 13 and continues through July 1, is convenient for students attending other institutions and teachers who desire certificate renewal credit. Classes meet from 8-11:30 a.m.

Rising high school seniors with B+ averages may also enroll in summer school under MOC's early admissions program.

For more information and a Summer School Brochure, contact the Admissions Office at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365. Phone 658-2502.

MOC GRADUATION

Graduation at Mount Olive College is Friday, May 6, at 6 p.m., on the Moye Library Lawn. All Free Will Baptists, and friends of the College are invited to attend.

(Continued on Page 14)

For May 8

CONFLICT IN CORINTH

Lesson Text: Acts 18:1, 4-17
Memory Verse: Acts 18:9, 10

I. INTRODUCTION

Several years ago President Harry Truman was asked about the pressures that came from the many weighty decisions that he had to make. He responded in characteristic fashion: "If you can't stand the heat, then get out of the kitchen!" His reply indicated that he believed that he had sources of strength that allowed him to cope with those pressures, but that if one did not have those strengths, then he should get out of the pressure-packed situation.

In today's lesson, we are led to believe that Paul was beginning to feel the pressures generated by his ministry in Corinth. Under those pressures, he may have been led to feel that the best thing for him to do was to leave Corinth—that is, "get out of the kitchen." At this critical point, God spoke to him in a vision. God's message brought him strength to face the situation by assuring him that He would protect him from physical harm. The message also brought him strength by informing him that there were still many people in the city who would respond to the gospel. Bolstered by God's promise, Paul remained in Corinth for many more months. Although he faced serious threats during that time, many victories were won for Christ because he stayed.

Unless we live in some troubled part of the world, we may never, as a result of our Christian witness, be faced with the kind of physical threats that Paul had to contend with. Our society is far too polite to kill or maim those who preach the gospel. Yet if we are loyal to our Lord, we may very well feel some of the pressures that Paul knew at Corinth. When one takes his faith seriously, family tensions sometimes develop. Young people especially feel the pressure of ridicule that comes from their peers. Persons in politics and business feel the pressure to compromise their convictions.

If the pressure is great enough, none of us, standing alone, can "stand the heat." Is our only option, then, to "get out of the kitchen"? No, indeed, for there is another option. We can rely on the promise of Christ to sustain us and see us through. He does not need to come to us in a vision as He did for the Apostle Paul, but His presence is just as real because we can have complete trust in the promise He has made to us in the Scriptures: "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:20).

When the Apostle Paul was threatened by persecution in Corinth, he had every right to be afraid. Yet in a vision the Lord assured him. In a sense He told Paul that he need not fear death because he already had died to the world.

In last week's lesson we left Paul and his companions in Philippi. As a result of Paul's casting the demon out of the slave girl, he and Silas were dragged before the magistrates by her owners. A near riot ensued and the two were beaten and thrown into jail. Then came the earthquake that opened the prison doors. As a result of this experience, the jailer and his family were led to accept the Lord and be baptized. The next day Paul and Silas were released from jail and sent on their way.

From Philippi the missionaries went to Thessalonica. After a brief stay there they went on to Berea, where their message was gladly received. Paul's next stop was Athens, the proud intellectual center of the ancient world. Paul's confrontation with the scholars on Mars' hill bore only limited fruit, and so after a brief stay he traveled on to Corinth, where we find him when today's lesson begins.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. The lesson for today is concerned with the second missionary journey of Paul. Silas was with Paul rather than Barnabas on this trip. Soon they picked up Timothy and he was with them on most of the journey. Paul's habit was to go first to the synagogue in each city.

B. Note that Paul's ministry brought intense reactions. In almost every city where he went, there was either a revival or a riot. This is the nature of the gospel. It changes people's lives so that they love the gospel and its Christ or they hate the gospel and its Christ.

C. When Paul was ministering in Corinth a very important thing happened to him. God spoke to him through a vision and told him that no one would do him any harm. This brought great encouragement to Paul at a time when he needed it because he had been persecuted at most of the places where he had been.

D. After Paul had been in Corinth about a year and a half, the Jews created an insurrection against him. They took him and brought him into the judgment before Gallio. In keeping with the promise that God had made to Paul in the vision, Gallio did him no harm, and he was able to stay in Corinth for some time after this.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, MAY 8

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 29-31; Ecclesiastes 1-3

NOT ALWAYS

In pastures green? Not always; sometimes He
Who knoweth best in kindness leadeth me
In weary ways, where heavy shadows be—

Out of the sunshine warm and soft and bright,
Out of the sunshine into darkest night;
I oft would faint with sorrow and affright—

Only for this—I know He holds my hand.
So whether in the green or desert land.
I trust, although I may not understand.

And by still waters? No, not always so;
Ofttimes the heavy tempests round me blow,
And o'er my soul the waves and billows go.

But when the storms beat loudest, and I cry
Aloud for help, the Master standeth by,
And whispers to my soul, "Lo, it is I."

Above the tempest wild I hear Him say,
"Beyond this darkness lies the perfect day,
In every path of thine I lead the way."

So, whether on the hilltops high and fair
I dwell, or in the sunless valleys where
The shadows lie—what matter? He is there.

MONDAY, MAY 9

Scripture Reading—Ecclesiastes 4-9

ONCE EVERY HOUR

Dr. Frank Laubach learned to practice the presence of God by disciplining his thoughts to think on God once every minute. He called it "the game of minutes."

A sixteenth-century saint tells us: "If thou dost once every hour throw thyself . . . into the abysmal mercy of God, then thou shalt receive power to rule over death and sin" (Jacob Boehme).

The airplane pilot radios a message to headquarters every hour and receives an answer. Thus he keeps "on the beam." Thus he keeps in touch with the control station, receives his orders, and reports his position. He knows that if the station does not hear from him at the appointed time, they will be alerted to his danger.

As we journey the unseen way of life, fraught with many dangers, are we careful to keep in touch with the unseen control? "Once every hour" to throw ourselves into the abysmal grace of God; once every hour to turn to Him, relax in Him, let go of tension, give ourselves completely to His strong arms—What change that would make in our lives!

My presence shall go with thee!
So calm thy troubled fears;
My promise is unchanging
Throughout the changeful years.
'Mid scenes of gloom and gladness,
When weary or distressed,
My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

Scripture Reading—Ecclesiastes 10-12

KEEPING WATCH ABOVE HIS OWN!

In the pioneer days of our country, there was a boy whose home was situated in the backwoods. A school had been opened some miles away from where the boy lived. Part of the way to the school led through a dense forest. The boy's father was a strong, brave backwoodsman. He wanted his son to grow up to be strong and brave. So he told his son that he would have to go to school alone! When the boy walked through the dark forest, he always expected to meet a bear or some wild Indians.

With the passing of the days and weeks, his fear subsided. Then, one afternoon, he saw a great bear standing right in his pathway! The bear growled and glowered at the boy. The boy stood motionless, filled with fear. Even if he had run, it would have done no good, for the bear would have outrun him. As he stood there, a shot rang out. The bear fell dead. Then, from the bushes, the father emerged. "It's all right, Son. I've been with you all the time. Every morning I have followed you to school, and every afternoon I have been in the shadows watching you. I kept myself hidden from you because I wanted you to learn to be brave!"

God has promised to His children: "Fear thou not; for I am with thee."

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

Scripture Reading—Song of Solomon

FADED GLORY

Napoleon lived only for the fading glory of this world. In his memoirs he wrote, "I die before my time, and my body shall be given back to the earth to be devoured of worms. What an

abysmal gulf between my deep miseries and the eternal kingdom of Christ. I marvel that whereas the ambitious dreams of myself and of Alexander and of Caesar should have vanished into thin air, a Judean peasant—Jesus— should be able to stretch His hands across the centuries, and control the destinies of men and nations."

I saw beside a copy of Who's Who a new volume—Who Was Who! How quickly we pass from hero to zero! "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass" (1 Peter 1:24).

THURSDAY, MAY 12

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 1-6

THE PLACE FOR GLORY

There was a workman who had unusual skill and was therefore promoted rapidly. Finally he became manager of the plant. Then he became proud and oppressive. The employees of the concern hated him. One day an aged employee said to him, "You are a clever man. God has given you outstanding talents. But there is something you have forgotten." "What's that?" snapped the manager. "It's this," said the old man, "ability will help you reach the top, but you'll need character to stay there. And there is something else—you need to be big enough to acknowledge that God gave you the ability."

It is most serious to arrogate to ourselves the glory which belongs to God.

FRIDAY, MAY 13

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 7-13

SEE WHAT I DID!

There is a little fable that expresses a big truth.

A woodpecker was pecking away at the trunk of a dead tree. Suddenly lightning struck the tree and splintered it. The woodpecker flew away, unharmed. Looking back to where the dead tree had stood, the proud bird exclaimed, "Look what I did!"

That fable reminds us of the proud man who arrogated to himself all the glory for his accomplishments—"Is not this great Babylon, that I have built . . . by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?" (Daniel 4:30).

Pride is a good thing to have. Be sure, however, it is the kind that keeps your chin up and not your nose.

SATURDAY, MAY 14

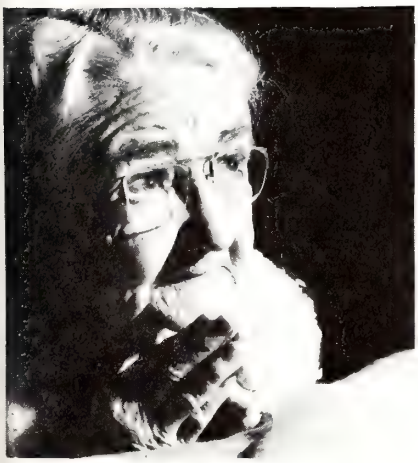
Scripture Reading—Isaiah 14-20

FUSSY LITTLE CHRISTIANS

Dr. Vance Havner has aptly described the present generation of Christians thus: "We are a generation of proud, fussy little Christians—experts but not examples. We know too much, or we think we do. We have heard all the preachers and read all the books. It is hard these days to be converted and become like little children. We want to be thought philosophers and scholars—brilliant but not childlike. So we miss the secrets God has hidden from the wise and prudent and revealed them unto babes. How often, even among the saints, does some simple soul learn the deeper things of God and press through to Heaven's best while 'the wise and the prudent' utterly miss them!"

Don't look down on anybody. Only God sits up that high.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.



CHERISH YOUR MOTHER WHILE YOU CAN

by Angela Moore Hines

I felt alone, deep darkness surrounded me, thoughts and memories of the past were compacted in my mind. I longed to see her face again. She would always smile and laugh, spreading happiness everywhere.

The room in which now she lay, no longer showed the glow of her face, but peered as the darkness of death. Her body was weak and helpless, as the doctors pronounced little hope.

My family became woeful of the words muttered by the doctors. All prayed that she would soon recover and return home.

As days passed her recovery became a miracle. This life that was given back to us was my mother's, and I will always cherish this second chance.

The above was written by Mrs. Hines when she was ten years old. Her mother was seriously ill at the time.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

acts, I'll have no part of it!" Such is unfortunate; but people expect perfection—especially from Christians. (Somehow, shedding "the old man" is equated with getting rid of humanness.) How sorry we are when we mess up; but our defects should be seen as challenges—not hopeless situations. We are not doomed to stay in the valley. Much of our self-condemnation comes from hearing people only share the victories of the Christian walk. Some folks do act as though there is not a constant struggle of being knocked down and letting God pick us up.

The temptation does exist to gloss over our defects and failures, and to recount only the victories. But the Christian walk is a balance of falling down, getting up, **and** marching onward; of darkness **and** light; of valleys **and** mountaintops; of sins **and** saintliness; of defeats **and** victories.

Face it. Every life and ministry has "leaks." Credibility is achieved only when we tell it like it is. Leaks and all.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 4)

Perhaps the most significant improvements made during 1975 were not the physical property, but rather to the development and implementation of the service programs for the children. One such program actually started in July 1974, when the Department of Family Services was established. Through concentrated efforts by the Board and Staff, our Home made application and received license from the State of North Carolina on September 1, 1975, to care for 72 school-age children.

(To Be Continued Next Week)

CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 7)

Discussion is just good Christian stewardship of human resources.

Now the purpose of discussion is not just to make mere conversation. It is not just the sharing of ideas and experiences. There is a goal or end in mind, that is, to arrive at some particular decision or understanding on a subject, or to identify, explore, and solve a particular problem. Also, the discussion needs to be stimulated and informed by the Bible and Christian doctrine. For example, suppose your lesson is on evangelism. Your goal is to come to an understanding of its importance and commit yourselves to it. Discussion could be used to get everyone's feelings and understanding of evangelism.

What the Bible teaches on it needs to be a vital part of the discussion. Perhaps there are some misconceptions of evangelism being expressed. Discussion gets them out into the open so they can be replaced by an attitude toward evangelism which is more in keeping with the Bible. Once there is a common understanding of evangelism and commitment to it, then discussion can be used to answer the problem of how to go about evangelism. Next, of course, would be the actual planning and carrying out of decisions reached in the discussions.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

PRESIDENT RAPER TO SPEAK

President W. Burkette Raper will be the speaker at two college commencements this year.

On May 7, he will deliver the graduation address at Heritage Bible College in Dunn; and on May 15, he will preach the baccalaureate sermon at Atlantic Christian College, Wilson, where his daughter, Laura, will be graduating.

In addition, on May 9, he will give the benediction at the commencement of Campbell University, Buies Creek, North Carolina, where his son, Stephen, will be graduating.

PLEASE NOTE

The financial report from the Free Will Baptist Children's Home that appeared in the April 27, 1983, issue of *The Free Will Baptist* was a nine-months year-to-date-report. The report does not give the contribution figures for just January—March as indicated.

COMING EVENTS

May—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Children's Home Month

May 7—State Layman's League Convention, Fremont Church, Fremont, 7:30 p.m.

May 8—Children's Home Day in churches

May 12—State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Cathedral Church near Durham

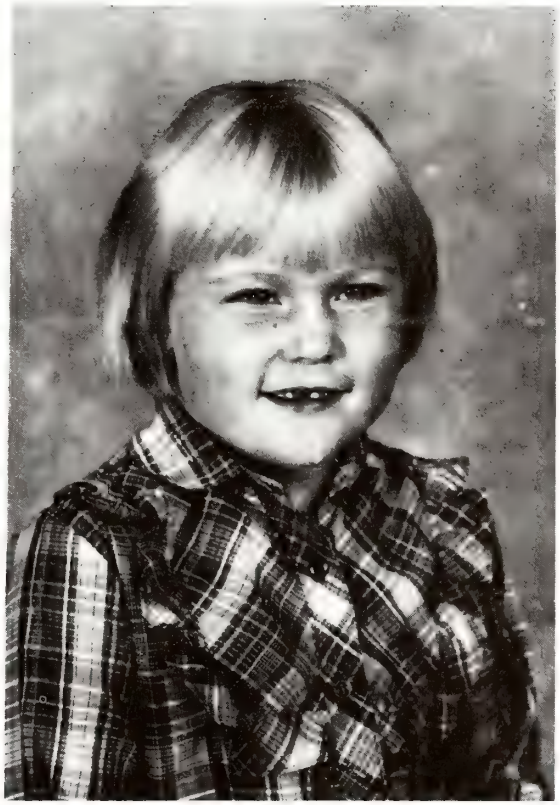
May 18—The Board of Directors of the Children's Home will meet at 9:30 a.m., in the Conference Room of Memorial Chapel Church, located on the Children's Home campus

CHURCH AVAILABLE

Whaley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Richlands, is seeking a full-time minister. For further information please call, J. C. Stroud at 324-4717.

May Is

CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH



May 8 . . . Children's Home Day in Our Churches

May 21 . . . Founder's Day Service at the Children's Home

Guest Speaker: The Rev. James A. Evans, Former Superintendent

Services Begin at 10:30 a.m. / Picnic Lunch at Noon
Open House in the Afternoon

No. of Memberships

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Incorporated

Incorporated under the Laws of the State of North Carolina

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that _____

_____

is a member of Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Incorporated.

This certificate may not be transferred without the consent and approval of the Board of Directors given in a meeting duly held.

WITNESS the corporate seal of the corporation and the signature of its duly authorized officers affixed this _____ day of _____, 19_____.

_____ President

_____ Secretary

(SEAL)

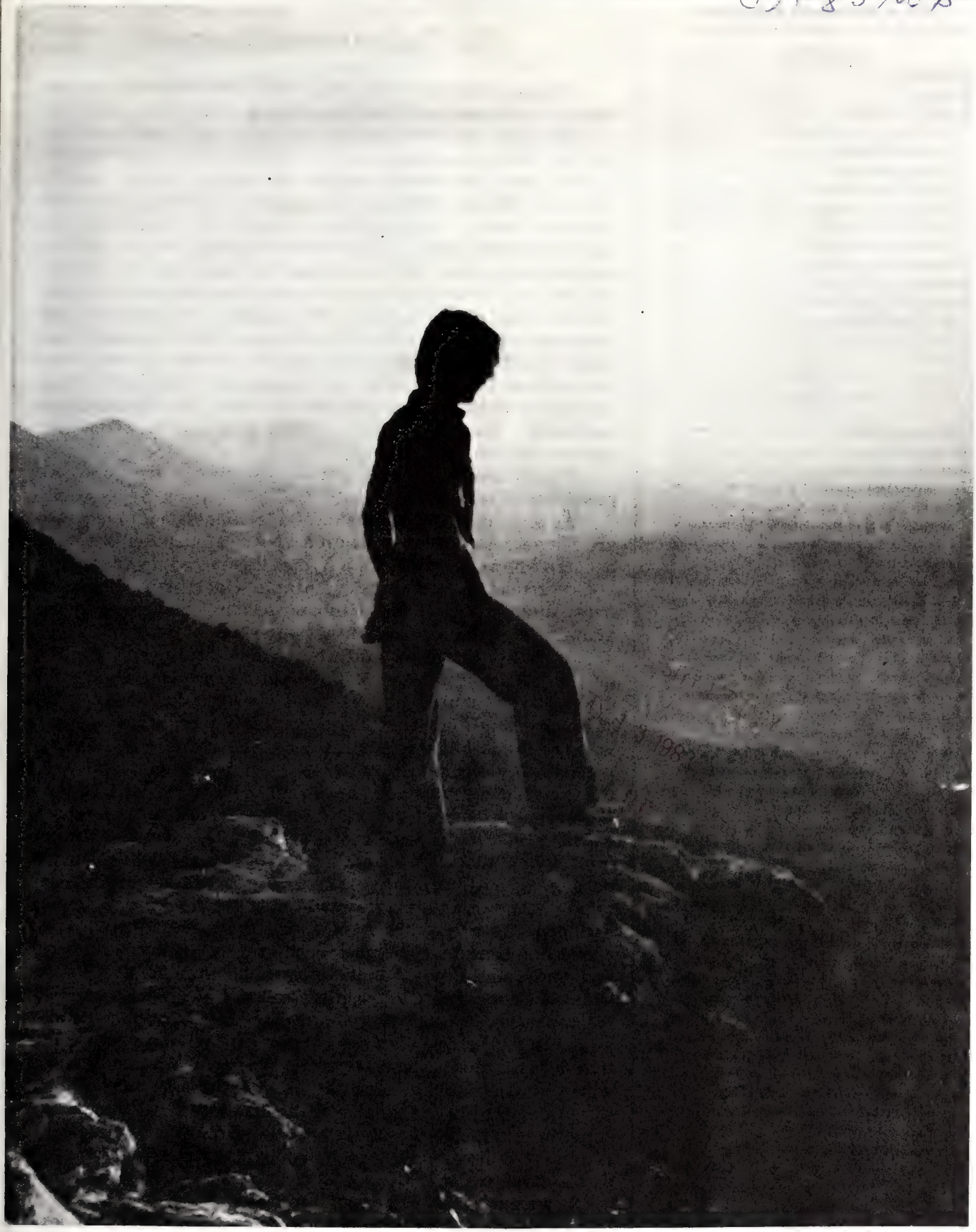
Upon proper motion on September 12, 1982, the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. voted to offer memberships for sale at the cost of $100 each. Certificates of membership cannot be issued to individual natural persons. Membership is limited to organizations of the Free Will Baptist denomination as follows: churches, union meetings, quarterly district meetings, conferences, conventions, other organizations recognized and sponsored by the Free Will Baptist denomination and such other denominational groups or organizations within the framework of the Free Will Baptist denomination as may be approved by the Board of Directors. Any group desiring membership, according to the Charter, should make application with the cost of membership to the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

The application below can be used for this purpose; mail it, with $100 per desired certificate, to the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513-0158. _____

Name of Group _____

Mailing Address of Group _____

Desired number of Memberships _____ **Amount Enclosed** _____



The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 98 Number 18

May 11, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

No Laughing Matter

(Please note, the first paragraph is not original; a friend shared it with me and I felt impelled to relate it to you.)

The story has been told of a sheik who had three sons. One day the elderly gentleman called his offspring in and offered to give each his heart's desire. The oldest brother quickly responded that he wanted a new sports car. Without hesitation the father said, "Son, not just a sports car, I will buy you General Motors itself." The second son was not as quick to answer as the first, but stated that he would like a rocket to call his own. Undaunted by his request, the gentleman related that he would buy him NASA. The youngest son really did not know how to take his father's kindnesses, but in answer to his query could only think of one thing he wanted. Having once seen a Walt Disney movie, the young man replied, "Father, my heart's desire is a Mickey Mouse outfit." To this the sheik answered, "Son, no problem; I will give you the Free Will Baptist Church."

Please don't laugh! (I, personally, do not like being the punchline of jokes!)

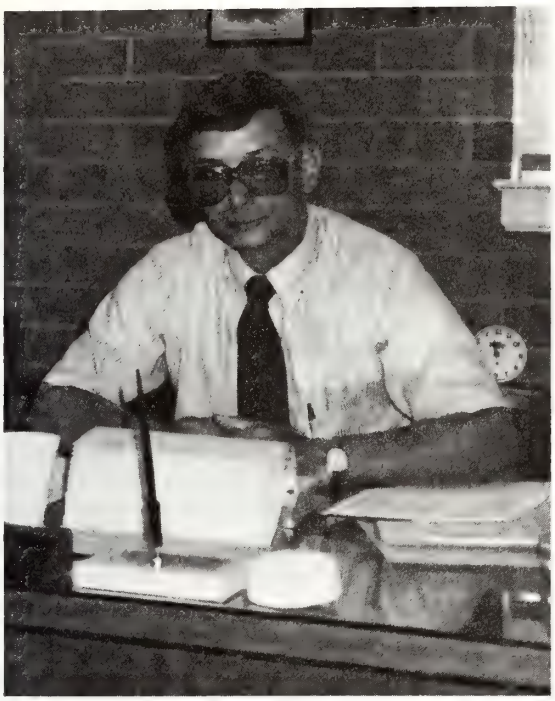
We as Free Will Baptists have a tremendous problem. We are not seen as Christians with a vision, a purpose—we have become known as backbiting hypocrites, a people doomed to self-destruct. We are an active people which bear little or no fruit; and activity is not a substitute for productivity. Then again, productivity does not take the place of growth.

In reality it can be said we are a faithful people, for we are, on occasion, faithful to some pet causes. But we are not faithful to our churches—we attend when it is convenient to do so and we have nowhere "more exciting" to go. Many of those who do attend have no earthly idea what Free Will Baptists believe—some could not care less. The real tragedy exists in the fact that we have no real commitment to Christ.

Jesus Christ had the world on His heart; and His was a world vision. His vision of reaching the world through multiplying disciples is not tucked away in some obscure passage of Scripture—this very message pulsates from page to page. And this message should burn within our hearts and challenge us to greater depths of service. But instead, we spend our time and energies downgrading. Our conventions and conferences (not to mention valuable meetings) are sites where we congregate to tell what we know (or think we know) is happening. (It has gotten to the place I nearly dodge people at meetings because I get tired of being picked for information that does not need to be discussed!) When was the last time we were actually challenged at a meeting to accomplish something for Christ? When was the last time something good, something positive, resulted out of a gathering of Free Will Baptists? Will we ever recognize our potential? Will we ever see our true calling?

If we are concerned about our ministry, we need to take a hard, honest assessment **now.** We need to adopt as our objective the one set forth by God in Matthew 6:33, and "Seek . . . the kingdom . . . ." We must be willing to pay any price to have the will of God fulfilled in our lives; and anything that stands

(Continued on Page 15)



Cliff Gray

GRAY ASSUMES POST

Effective leadership demands a lot of things. One must have confidence—confidence in himself, confidence in others, confidence in one's cause. Optimism, the belief that the goal is not only good but that it will be reached, is as necessary a trait as knowledge. Now a lot of people think they are smart, but knowledge goes a step farther—it is an understanding of underlying problems, what needs to be done, and how to go about getting it done. A leader must be decisive and open. Willing to help with even menial tasks, a good leader will often be the first to roll up his sleeves and tackle difficult tasks. Patience, the willingness to let ideas ripen, to plan adequately, to await the right time for action, is a characteristic which cannot be done without; but the good leader is courageous too—he can withstand criticism, make sacrifices, resist pressure, and continue on in the face of adversity. I believe R. Clifford Gray is an effective leader.

A member of Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, Mr. Gray assumed the position of Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. on May 2, 1983.

Mr. Gray brings with him a varied background which will help in his administrative responsibilities. A graduate of North Carolina Wesleyan with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, he holds a Master's Degree in Management and Supervision from Central Michigan University. Mr. Gray worked as an employee of Stackhouse, Inc. for four years. The first year and one-half of that time, he worked as Accounting Supervisor; the last two and one-half years were spent as Personnel Manager. Prior to his employment at Stackhouse, he worked with Materials Management and Control at A. P. Parts.

Married to the former Becky Lancaster, he is the proud father of four children, an eleven year-old daughter and a set of six-year-old triplets, two boys and a girl. Mrs. Gray teaches ninth graders at Greenwood Junior High School, Goldsboro. At the present time, the Grays are living in Goldsboro (well—actually, they live in Patetown).

Mr. Gray is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond C. Gray of Pikeville, North Carolina.

When asked why he was interested in directing the Press work, Mr. Gray related that he saw it as a calling to a special ministry—a ministry to which he was led and one which holds many opportunities.

Mr. Gray commented that he was looking forward to the work here at the Press; and we are looking forward to working with him. Let me be one of the first to say, "Welcome!"

CHRISTIANITY IN ACTION

(Continued from Last Week)

In the fall of 1975, the Home established a Department of Recreation and for the first time employed a person on the staff to direct this much-needed program.

Early in 1976, the need arose for us to care for pre-school age children, so the Children's Home ventured into a Foster Homes Program. Application for licensing to operate such a home was made to and received from the State. A director for this program was added to the Home's staff in March.

During February 1976, the Children's Home purchased a tract of land which connected to our existing property. This tract is located adjacent to the southwest quadrant of the property. This brought the total acreage to 404 acres.

The remaining part of 1976 resulted in remodeling and interior work on the Deans, Smith, Central and Rodgers Cottages. Also much emphasis was focused on better services to children.

By early 1977, there were four cottages which housed brothers and sisters, and which were staffed by houseparent couples, thereby resulting in a closer family atmosphere. In addition to the increase in houseparent staff, the third person was also added to the Home's Family Services Department. The Foster Homes Program was expanded by licensing foster homes.

In January 1977, a new addition was made on the office building which consisted of a large conference room, a kitchenette, two restrooms and two closets.

On Thursday, May 5, 1977, a large beautiful steeple was placed upon Memorial Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. Through the years its presence will bring tremendous value to the lives of all who live here.

Also during May 1977, 25 acres of land were deeded to the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes.

In 1978, the old pool was replaced with a new, larger pool with lots of shallow water for the younger children.

The Daniels Chapel Men's Fellowship planted shrubbery around all the buildings. This, along with having the exterior of all the buildings painted really brightened up the appearance of the campus.

Modern medicine, the absence of war, and a decrease in family size all affected the numbers of children needing care in the 70s. In 1978, our numbers were down sufficiently for us to close the old Albemarle building. However, the Children's Home and the Retirement Homes embarked on a cooperative effort of "total stewardship" of all Free Will Baptist properties at Middlesex during 1979. As a result, Albemarle was renovated for staff and the Dawson House (formerly called the Staff House) was renovated to house retirees.

Beginning January 1, 1979, the farm was leased in order to realize a profit rather than a loss. It had become much more expensive to operate the farm ourselves due to the fact that we no longer had enough older children to assist in that operation.

Then in the fall of 1979, due to lack of funds Rodgers Cottage was closed. Later as we did not have any increase in funds or children, the cottage was used for the Media Center which was sponsored by our State Woman's Auxiliary.

During the summer of 1981, due to fewer children and lack of funds Central Cottage was closed and later the Media Center had to be moved out of Rodgers because the Home could no longer afford to keep the cottage open a few hours a day.

In January 1982, things began to look brighter, as churches had begun to respond better financially and on January 15, 1982, Central Cottage was again opened to children. During May, renovation began on Albemarle building to house the Educational Center (Media Center) and plans are for it to be a permanent arrangement. The Educational Center was scheduled to open when the fall 1982 school session began.

THE REAL PURPOSE OF OUR CHILDREN'S HOME: The preceding tells of the building of a physical plant and reflects credit to those who have helped make it possible. However, the purchase of lands and the erection and equipping of buildings are not the main objectives of the Home. These things are of value as they help to make it possible to provide better care for our children. The real worth of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home is in the lives of the children it has served. The degree of its success is measured by how well it has used its facilities to meet the physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual needs of the children "entrusted in its care" and its right to ask for continued support is dependent upon its commitment to constantly strive to improve its service to children.

Since it was opened on May 23, 1920, the Home has cared for more than 700 children. While it

is impossible to review the accomplishments of all of them, it is well known that many outstanding leaders of our denomination and many noble citizens of the communities of this and other states were once boys and girls who found "a little bit of Home" at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home.

The Children's Home is one of the outstanding achievements of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. It is an investment in the lives and future of the heart and soul of christianity. It is "Christianity in Action" as it reaches out and gathers precious lives and replaces despair with hope. It will remain as long as boys and girls are deprived of normal homes and families. It is an attempt to restore children's faith in themselves, in others, and primarily, in God.

CONCLUSION: It is a very inspiring experience to study the development and ministry of the Children's Home. While a great number of individuals have given of themselves and their means, it is evident that God has blessed in a great way. Without His guidance and blessings, the efforts of individuals would have been in vain. An objective study of this history prompts one to say sincerely, "To God Be the Glory, Forever and Ever, Amen."

COMING EVENTS

May—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Children's Home Month

May 18—The Board of Directors of the Children's Home will meet at 9:30 a.m., in the Conference Room of Memorial Chapel Church, located on the Children's Home campus

June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month

June 13-17—Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference

OPEN LETTER TO ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST MINISTERS

Dear Fellows of the Cloth:

The total attendance for the Mid-Year Spiritual Life Banquet was 115. We were also delighted to have five of our ministers' widows in attendance. That was a very good response. This type of active participation will make our Association strong! Those who made comments to me were well pleased with the warm hospitality shown us by the "Rachel Collins" Sunday School Class of Everett Chapel Church and the pastor, the Rev. Billy Yawn. The program presented by Dr. Bob Dale was equally enjoyed by those present.

In your letter prepared by the Rev. Doug Skinner, secretary, and the Rev. Ralph Sumner, treasurer, there were two inserts. One asked for the names and addresses of any minister's widow that you might know about. We would like to have this information for next year if you have not already sent it in. Please help us with this matter.

Brother Ralph Sumner prepared an enclosure that we wish to share with you again as a challenge and reminder:

"At its annual business meeting in 1979, the Ministerial Association made a pledge to the Cragmont Building Fund. The pledge was for $5,000 over a 5-year span. Below is how we stand after 3½ years:

Year	Amount Given
79-80	$ 920
80-81	690
81-82	422
82-83*	260
	$2,292

*(Does not include any donations received at the banquet.)

We need $2,708 over the next year and a half. Gifts to this pledge should be sent to: Ralph Sumner, Box 298, Oriental, North Carolina 28571. If all our ministers could give $2 a month over the next 18 months, we could easily reach our goal.

Your executive committee urges you to keep current on your pledge. Be sure it goes through our treasurer to insure proper credit. If you were not a part of the 1979 group who made the pledge, your contribution of $20 (the pledge was $20/minister/year for 5 years) will certainly be appreciated and will help us reach our goal. Thank you for your support.

Membership in the Ministerial Association is on the upswing; we like that trend. If you are not a member mail your membership fee ($5) and your contribution to the ministerial scholarship fund at Mount Olive College ($2 is suggested and is optional) to Ralph Sumner at the above address. As a member of the North Carolina Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association you are entitled to the "Christian Flag" ceremony upon your personal request.

The flags are purchased with membership fees paid into the association. Our secretary keeps a current list of all ministers requesting the ceremony.

Begin now to make plans to attend the 1983 Ministers' Conference at Cragmont in July. May God richly bless each one of you personally and professionally and use you greatly in the building of His Kingdom among men.

Yours in His service,
De W. Eakes, *President*
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association

KING'S CROSS ROADS CHURCH OPPOSES ACTION OF CHILDREN'S HOME BOARD

In special session on November 9, 1970, the State Convention requested that the Children's Home Board rescind the signing of the Civil Rights Compliance Act of 1964.

On November 14, 1979, the Executive Committee met at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home and recommended to the Children's Home Board that if the Children's Home Board deemed it necessary for the Home to be in compliance that they seek the approval of the Convention in session prior to any legal change in commitment.

The Children's Home Board ignored this request or recommendation and did not mention the action it would be taking only two months after our last session of the State Convention. Therefore the members of the King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church of Route 1, Fountain, North Carolina, voted unanimously at its Quarterly Business Meeting on March 16, 1983, to send a letter to the Executive Committee of the State Convention stating the following motion.

"We the members of the King's Cross Roads Church go on record as being opposed to the action taken by the Children's Home Board of Directors, and stand by the decision made by the Convention in 1970 not to sign the Civil Rights Compliance Act of 1964."

The Rev. Bruce Jones

Dear Fellow Brethren:

We are pleased to write that we now have a Free Will Baptist Church in St. Cloud, Florida. When you are visiting in the Central Florida area, please come by and worship with us. We are only about twenty-five miles from Walt Disney World, Sea World, and Circus World.

We started as a mission a little more than two years ago in our pastor's home and in the homes of others on some occasions. We were granted the use of a building in downtown St. Cloud for several months at no cost to us. About the time the building became unavailable to us the Lord opened up a way for us to purchase four lots and an existing church building. We have been self-supporting since the beginning, but the Lord blessed us and we were able to gather together the down payment. We haven't had any problem making the payments. Thanks be unto God.

We secured an attorney to handle the real estate transaction, and all of the vital papers have been placed in our safe deposit box by our trustee.

Also, the attorney filed the necessary papers with the state of Florida to incorporate us as the First Free Will Baptist Church, St. Cloud, Florida, of the Original Free Will Baptists of the State of North Carolina.

It is our desire to request the Executive Committee of the Eastern Conference to organize us into a church in good standing with the Original Free Will Baptists of the State of North Carolina in the very near future.

Attendance, baptisms, and memberships continue to grow. In addition to our regularly scheduled services we are sponsoring a nursing home ministry every Sunday afternoon. The ladies of our congregation have formed an auxiliary and have been busy with fund-raising projects. All of our literature is purchased from the Free Will Baptist Press at Ayden, North Carolina.

We earnestly request your prayers as we work for the Lord here in St. Cloud. Visit with us when you can.

Our pastor is the Rev. William L. Bronson from First Free Will Baptist Church, College Road, Wilmington, North Carolina.

In His love,
Rev. William L. Bronson
First Free Will Baptist Church
St. Cloud, Florida

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

Let's look at some of the characteristics and results of effective discussion as a teaching method.

The following are some characteristics of good discussion. First, everyone must have a clear understanding of the specific subject to be discussed. Second, the teacher and the class should do some individual study on the topic before coming together to discuss it. Third, there should be an informal and relaxed atmosphere. Fourth, you have good discussion when there is dialogue, that is, questions and responses between the members rather than always just between the teacher and a member. Fifth, diversity of opinion is encouraged. Sixth, the importance of the individual is emphasized. Seventh, it involves all the members of the group. Eighth, there is a genuine willingness to listen as well as talk. Ninth, new and stimulating insights are gained. Tenth, ideas are clarified. Eleventh, decisions are made and carried out.

What are some of the positive results of discussion? First, it helps create genuine Christian fellowship. Second, self-understanding is increased. Third, an increased understanding of other people is developed. Fourth, tolerance of and openness to the views of others is encouraged. Fifth, the worth of each person is affirmed. Sixth, it helps to avoid an embittered minority who may feel that their attitudes or views are not appreciated or desired. Seventh, misconceptions and attitudes through the

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Reception Honors Armstrongs

The Rev. and Mrs. Henry Armstrong

A reception to honor the pastor of Lee's Chapel Church, Route 5, Dunn, North Carolina, was held Sunday afternoon, February 13, 1983.

The Rev. and Mrs. Henry Armstrong were the guests of honor at the affair hosted by the church members in the educational building.

The reception was held to pay tribute to the pastor for his dedication and service to the church for the past 18 years. He has accepted the call to Pleasant Hill Church near Goldsboro.

Some 250 guests attended the event.

Mr. Armstrong delivered his last sermon as pastor of Lee's Chapel Church on February 27.

Following the morning message, the members presented Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong with a microwave oven and a silver tray in appreciation of their many years of service to the church and community.

During his tenure as pastor, numerous goals were attained by the church. To name a few, first and most important, many souls were saved, a parsonage was built, the church was renovated which included the addition of the baptistry, carpet, and padded pews. Additional land was purchased and the parking lot enlarged and surfaced.

Mr. Armstrong's love for the church and its congregation was expressed by innumerable deeds he did beyond the call of duty.

Special Pre-Easter Service At Mount Zion Church

Mount Zion Church of Roper, North Carolina, has been having sunrise services for many years, but this year it was decided to have a Good Friday night service instead of the usual sunrise service. The Rev. Charlie Overton, the pastor of Mount Zion Church, met with the pastors of other Free Will Baptist Churches in this area, and they agreed to combine all the churches and have one service and meet at the Plymouth First Church on Good Friday.

Mr. Overton made up the program beginning with the communion service at 7 p.m. with Mr. Overton conducting and being assisted by the deacons of Mount Zion and the Plymouth First Church, while Mrs. Lucille Jones, pianist, played softly "Break Thou the Bread of Life."

Mr. Overton spoke about the events leading up to the Lord's Supper and then spoke from John 13 on foot washing. The worship service began at 7:30 with the congregation singing a hymn, "At the Cross."

Ray Collier read from God's Holy Word and led the people in prayer. After the congregation sang "The Old Rugged Cross," the Rev. Floyd Burkey gave the welcome and the response was given by Robby Waters.

The message was presented in three parts, each minister speaking a few minutes. The first topic was "Father Forgive Them," by the Rev. James Owens, pastor of Corinth. The second topic, "I Thirst," was presented by the Rev. Floyd Burkey, pastor of Plymouth First. The third topic was "It Is Finished," by the Rev. Charlie Overton, pastor of Mount Zion Church.

There was special singing by the Plymouth First Church and the Mount Zion Ladies Quintet, and all the choirs combined to sing "There Is Power in the Blood."

There was a good response when the invitational hymn, "Just As I Am" was given.

Everyone enjoyed this service so much, many said let's have another one next year.

Participating churches were Mount Zion, Piney Grove, Corinth, and Plymouth First.

AFC Group II Met At Lee's Chapel

AFC Group II met Monday night, April 18, in the Lee's Chapel fellowship hall, near Dunn. Mrs. Charlotte Jackson welcomed the members and one new member, C. S. Godwin. Everyone was praised for the excellent job that each one did in the youth rally held on April 9 at the church.

A business session was held next concerning plans for a Mother's Day Party at the church for the widows of the church. A short program was planned for the occasion, and refreshments and decorations were discussed. Special plans were made for a very special party. A few surprises are to be in store for the honored guests.

The lesson for April covered the five poetry books of the Bible. A brief outline of each chapter was given. The meeting was adjourned with sentence prayers by the members.

Cape Fear Youth Rally Met

The Cape Fear Youth Rally met at Lee's Chapel Church near Dunn on April 9, 1983. Both attendance banners were given to Robert's Grove with 34 youth and 54 overall. There were 367 people present for the rally.

(Turn the Page)

The program opened with four songs by the Junior Choir. Then Randy Wood, Carol Sue Jackson, and Sherry Matthews sang several numbers. The YFA's Group II did an interesting skit called "Christ Arose." This enjoyable program closed with three selections by the Youth Choir. The Rev. L. B. Woodall, the interim pastor at Lee's Chapel, extended the invitation, and Carol Sue Jackson prayed the benediction. Refreshments were then enjoyed by all.

The next meeting will be held on May 7, 1983, at St. Mary's Grove Church near Smithfield.

Cherubs of Lee's Chapel Meet

The Cherubs of Lee's Chapel Church near Dunn met Monday, April 18, in the fellowship hall. The members were welcomed by Mrs. Phyllis Jackson, leader. There were 12 members present with one new member and one visitor.

The Scripture lesson was taken from Genesis 1. The lesson itself was entitled "God's Creation," which told about Adam and Eve and their two sons, Cain and Abel.

After remembering the sick and needy, Miss Kellie Godwin led in prayer.

During the craft time the children colored pictures and were each given a Scripture prayer and picture book to take home.

Alyne Elmore Circle Met

The Alyne Elmore Circle of Lee's Chapel met at the church near Dunn on Tuesday night, April 19, to go to Hillsberry Church in Clinton to attend revival services led by the Rev. Henry Armstrong, former pastor of Lee's Chapel.

AFC Group I Met

The AFC Group I met on April 18, 1983, at Lee's Chapel Church, near Dunn. The opening prayer was given by Brent Godwin. They studied the five books of poetry in the Old Testament and sang a short song. They also had a discussion time, and the closing prayer was given by Joseph Grubbs.

Marsh Swamp Auxiliary News

The Marsh Swamp Auxiliary began a drive for new members in March 1982. The chairman, Mrs. Janet Nichols, divided the members into two groups with chairmen, Mrs. Helen Boykin, Group I, and Mrs. Anne Liles, Group II. The group getting the most new members in a year was to be treated by the other one. The auxiliary gained seven new members with Group II as the winner.

Before the April meeting Group II was asked to be at the church one hour early without supper. Group I treated them with a hot dog supper. The meal was enjoyed by everyone and the fellowship was wonderful after each one labeled herself a winner or a loser. Following the meal, the auxiliary held its meeting with president, Mrs. Doris F. Davis, presiding.

Banquet to Be Held

The Annual Pastors' and Superintendents' Banquet will be on its designated date, September 9, 1983, at King's Restaurant in Kinston.

Christian Education And Growth Week at First Church, Wilson

Christian Education and Growth Week will be held at the First Church, Wilson, May 16-19. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. with a different speaker discussing various topics.

Monday night: "Sunday School Growth for Teachers and Students," Sheryll Wood, assistant director at the Center of Professional Development, Atlantic Christian College

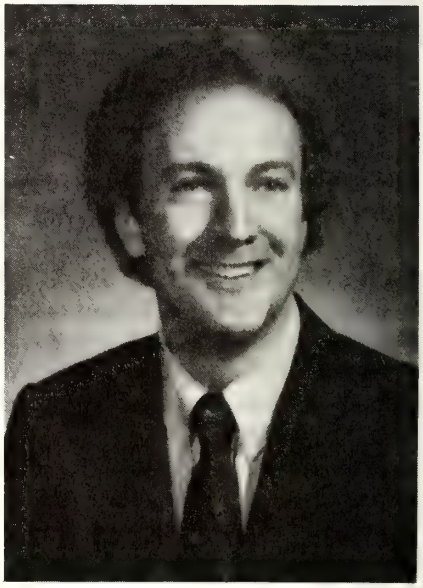
Tuesday night: "A Christian View of, and Ministry to Divorce," the Rev. De Wayne Eakes, pastor of Little Rock Church, Lucama.

Wednesday night: "Aging and Ministry to Senior Citizens," the Rev. Frank Harrison, director of denominational services, Mount Olive College

Thursday night: "A Christian View of Death: Dying," the Rev. Marvin Waters, pastor of St. Mary's Church, New Bern

The church is located at 910 Granger Street in Wilson. A nursery will be provided.

Winterville Church To Have Revival



The Rev. Ray Williamson

The spring revival will be at Winterville Church, May 16-20, with the Rev. Ray Williamson, pastor of Gum Swamp Church, as the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. A nursery will be provided, and there will be special music each night.

The pastor, the Rev. Ed Taylor, and the members invite everyone to attend.

Old-Fashioned Sunday to Be At Little Creek Church

An Old-Fashioned Sunday will be held on Sunday, May 15, 1983, at Little Creek Church, Scuffleton. The event is being sponsored by the Layman's League.

The 11 a.m. worship service will be held on the church grounds, followed by a noon

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1983 TELETHON $32,915.07

"To God Be the Glory, Great Things He Hath Done"

Thank you for making the 1983 Foreign Missions Telethon the greatest ever. Listed below are the names of churches and individuals who contributed to this year's telethon.

1983 FOREIGN MISSIONS TELETHON

Agape Mission	$ 100.00
Arapahoe	500.00
Aspen Grove	100.00
Ayden—	
Celia Hart Garris Auxiliary	25.00
Baker, Rev. and Mrs. Fred	70.00
Beaman, Helen	50.00
Bethany	316.25
Bethel Sunday	
School (Cape Fear)	105.00
Bethel (Eastern)	200.00
Bethlehem (Paul Palmer)	225.00
Beulaville	300.00
Calvary Auxiliary (Western)	100.00
Community (Central)	188.17
Cuddington, Alan	27.00
Cypress Creek	572.50
Daniels Chapel	
Bertha Smith	
Sunday School Class	50.00
Young Adult	
Sunday School Class	30.00
Men's Fellowship Class	50.00
J. W. Everton Auxiliary	871.47
Daughtry, Ruth R.	25.00
Dilda's Grove	37.00
Dilda's Grove Sunday School	195.36
Durham, First	250.00
Eastwood	25.71
Edgewood	44.00
Everett Chapel	607.00
Free Spirit	85.00
Free Union (Central)	744.50
Fremont	135.86
Fremont Sunday School	135.86
Friendship (Central)	200.00
Friendship Ladies	
Sunday School Class	126.00
Friendship (Western)	106.00
Furlough, Mr. and Mrs. John	100.00
Goldsboro, First	250.00
Grantham, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy	50.00
Grimsley	70.00
Gum Swamp	1,338.23
Harrell's Chapel	100.00
High Point	73.92
Hillsberry	15.00
Holly Springs (Eastern)	479.15
Memorial Bible Class	111.00
Good Samaritan Bible Student	18.00
Ladies Bible Class	20.00
Dente and Jan Haskett	62.00
Crusader's Sunday	
School Class	188.00
Youth Group Rock-A-Thon	150.00
Holly Springs (Western)	300.00
Holy Cross	25.00
Hopewell Auxiliary	300.00
Hott, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas	25.00
Howell Swamp	183.35
Hugo	436.27
Johnston Union	300.00
Jones, Rev. and Mrs. Harold	200.00
Juniper Chapel	200.00
King's Cross Roads	2,000.00
LaGrange	776.22
Lassiter, Margaret	20.00
Lee's Chapel Auxiliary	25.00
Lee's Chapel	948.16
Lee's Chapel Junior Choir	26.84
Little Rock	325.00
Mangum, Mr. and Mrs. A. G.	50.00
Marlboro	618.00
May's Chapel	200.00
Memorial	133.30
Milbournie	180.00
Moseley's Creek	400.00
Moseley's Creek League	350.00
Mount Zion (Albemarle)	226.20
Mount Zion (Nash County)	130.40
Northeast	50.00
Northern	455.00
Ormondsville	250.00
Otter's Creek	45.25
Owens Chapel	313.36
Owens Chapel Laymen's League	50.00
Palmer Memorial	361.13
Pine Level (Western)	290.15
Piney Grove (Western)	345.40
Piney Grove (Western)	
Iris Pittman	25.00
Pleasant Hill (Central)	150.00
Pleasant Hill Auxiliary (Western)	50.00
Pleasant Hill (Western)	396.00
Pleasant Plain	127.25
Plymouth, First	46.00
Powhatan	368.10
Rains Cross Roads	545.00
Reedy Branch	1,125.89
Riverside	205.00
Robert's Grove	200.00
Robert's Grove Men's Fellowship	25.00
Rocky Mount, First	100.00
Rogerson, James	120.00
Rooty Branch	93.00
Rosebud	37.50
Rose Hill Auxiliary	108.07
Rose Hill	150.00
Rose of Sharon	500.00
St. Mary's (Eastern)	402.48
Circle Number 1	90.00
Circle Number 3	5.00
Circle Number 6	20.00
W. B. Everett	50.00
Saint Clair Sunday School Class	25.00
Sandy Plain	228.95
Saratoga Sunday School	325.11
Shady Grove	521.50
Smithfield, First Auxiliary	10.00
Smithfield, First	75.00
Snow Hill	652.00
Snow Hill Senior Young	
People's Sunday School Class	205.30
Spring Hill	533.00
Spring Hope	176.00
Saint Cloud, First (Florida)	146.38
Stoney Creek Auxiliary	50.00
Stoney Creek	1,841.26
Stoney Creek Ladies Circle	135.00
Sweet Gum Grove	50.00
Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Marle W.	120.00
Tee's Chapel	71.00
Turnage, Mrs. R. G.	20.00
Union Chapel Young Adult	
Sunday School Class	
(Albemarle)	50.00
Union Grove	100.00
Unity Auxiliary (Wilson County)	25.00
Unity (Wilson County)	336.51
van der Plas,	
Mr. and Mrs. Willem	50.00
Verona	100.00
Victory Auxiliary	20.00
Victory Youth Group	50.00
Walnut Creek	353.76
Warsaw Auxiliary	50.00
Westside	300.00
White Hill	25.00
White Oak (Eastern)	58.00
White Oak (Pee Dee)	368.00
White Pond (Paul Palmer)	500.00
Winterville Sunday School	150.00
Wooten's Chapel	92.00
	$32,915.07

The Lord is doing many exciting things through your Foreign Missions Program. We have a new missionary family for India, the Willem van der Plas family. The Baker Family will be returning to the Philippines in June. A new building has been approved for the P.B.I. campus. Plans are in the making for Bible Schools to be started in Mexico and India. All of these things require additional funds, but I believe Free Will Baptists are ready for expansion and that the next few years will be the most exciting we have ever experienced. I appreciate all of you. Thank you for your trust and cooperation in this great task of world evangelism.

Your Foreign Missions Director,
Harold Jones

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Gurney R. Chase announces that he is available for part-time or full-time pastoral duties. He is a member in good standing in the Eastern Conference. He may be contacted at 411 Central Avenue, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; or phone, 523-3429.

Endowment of the Week

SOPHIA POTTS SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

Mrs. Sophia Potts (background) taught English at Mount Olive College from 1956-1959. A scholarship endowment in honor of Mrs. Potts (deceased February 19, 1982) has recently been established at Mount Olive. She is pictured with one of her freshman composition classes (1959).

A scholarship in memory of Sophia Hargett Potts (February 2, 1908—February 19, 1982) has been established at Mount Olive College by former students, family members, and friends. Mrs. Potts taught English and speech at Mount Olive from 1956-1959.

The scholarship was established this past February with an initial gift by Dr. James Alton Cowan who wished to honor his former teacher for her emphasis upon "excellence in the use of the English language." He was a student during the time Mrs. Potts taught at Mount Olive College. Dr. Cowan now teaches English at Nicholls State College in Thibodeaux, Louisiana.

Mrs. Potts also taught English at Mount Olive High School, and she was a librarian at Southern Wayne High School. In addition, she was a lifetime honorary member of the administrative board of the First United Methodist Church of Mount Olive.

Outstanding freshmen who are selected by the English faculty will compete by written composition for the annual Sophia Potts Award. Their essays will be judged on organization, content, creativity, and grammatical correctness. By making the award in this manner, the English faculty hopes to foster scholarship in the area of composition and encourage the academic standards for which Mrs. Potts was known at Mount Olive.

The first Sophia Potts Scholarship in the amount of $200 was presented recently at the 1983 Awards Banquet to Merle Robbins of Goldsboro. The endowment principal is already in excess of $2,000, and the amount of the annual award will increase as the fund grows.

PRESIDENT RAPER TO APPEAR ON CHANNEL 7

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be interviewed by Kay Currie on "Hospitality House," Sunday, May 15, on WITN-TV

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ALUMNUS MAKES PLEDGE TO COLLEGE

Dr. E. Lee Glover, right, a 1978 alumnus of Mount Olive College, is shown talking with President W. Burkette Raper at the College Hall construction site during a recent visit to the campus.

During his visit, Dr. Glover joined other alumni in making a pledge to the College Hall building fund. Through late April, 104 alumni have made pledges totaling $105,474 for this project. The College Alumni Association has accepted the lobby of College Hall as its project and is working toward a goal of $150,000.

Following his studies at Mount Olive College, Dr. Glover earned his B.S. degree from Atlantic Christian College and his Ph. D. from the University of Maryland. Currently, he is a Professor of Biology at Montgomery College, Takoma, Maryland. While at Mount Olive, he was a student lab assistant to Mrs. Lorelle F. Martin.

CHILDREN'S HOME

FOUNDER'S DAY GUEST SPEAKER

The Rev. James A. Evans

The Rev. James A. Evans, former Superintendent of the Children's Home (during the 1940s), will be the keynote speaker for the Home's Founder's Day Service, May 21, 1983, beginning at 10:30 a.m., in Memorial Chapel Church.

Mr. Evans was born and completed public school in Wilson County. He attended Eureka College in Ayden, North Carolina, and Duke University.

Mr. Evans has spent his pastorate in rural and city areas. He has been closely associated with all denominational enterprises since their inception.

He was one of the organizers of the Southeastern Conference of Children's Homes, which was the instigation for the North Carolina Child Care Association based at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. This organization, through the persistence of the Southeastern Conference, has grown to the extent that it is now the hub of all the child care associations on the eastern seaboard.

Although semi-retired, Mr. Evans does supply work for churches and has a keen interest in all denominational enterprises.

We invite the public to be with us for our Founder's Day festivities on May 21st!

E. Howard Cayton
Executive Director

CHURCHES AVAILABLE

Whaley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Richlands, is seeking a full-time minister. For further information please call J. C. Stroud at 324-4717.

Cabin Church, Beulaville, is in need of a pastor for full-time services. Anyone interested contact Lawrence Houston, 298-3155; or Nathan Hinkle, 298-3339.

THIRTY-TWO AND ONE-HALF NEW MEMBERSHIPS PURCHASED IN APRIL 1983

	Number of Memberships
Central District Woman's Auxiliary, Stantonsburg, North Carolina	2
Grimsley Free Will Baptist Layman's League, Maury, North Carolina	1
Woman's Auxiliary First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, North Carolina	1
Westside Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, North Carolina	1
Bethany Woman's Auxiliary, Winterville, North Carolina	1
Snow Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Mount Olive, North Carolina	4
Winterville Free Will Baptist Sunday School, Winterville, North Carolina	1
Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Grifton, North Carolina	2
North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues, Winterville, North Carolina	1
Woman's Auxiliary First Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, North Carolina	2
Marlboro Woman's Auxiliary, Farmville, North Carolina	1
Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, North Carolina	2
Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama, North Carolina	1
Sherron Acres Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina	1
Rose of Sharon Sunday School, Robersonville, North Carolina	1
Piney Grove Sunday School, Beaufort County	1
Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, North Carolina	1½
Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Merritt, North Carolina	1
Moseley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Dover, North Carolina	1
Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Selma, North Carolina	1
Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Belvoir, North Carolina	1
Sidney Free Will Baptist Church, Belhaven, North Carolina	1
First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, North Carolina	2
Central Conference Layman's League, Snow Hill, North Carolina	1
Total	32½

More memberships were purchased in the month of April than any month yet. Our new membership drive has brought us eighty-one and a half (81½) new memberships. We are using revenue received through memberships to pay on our past-due debts only. Our indebtedness is becoming smaller as our memberships increase. We ask for everyone who has not purchased new memberships with us to please do so; the cost is $100 per membership. Certificates will be mailed to you as soon as they are approved by our Board of Directors.

Under the leadership of our new manager, Mr. Cliff Gray, and the continued growth in our membership drive, I feel our financial conditions will improve.

We thank the Lord for your prayers, concern, and financial support.

Jack Mayo
Financial Director
Free Will Baptist Press

SUNDAY, MAY 15

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 21-26

WHAT THE CREW OF THE SQUALAS DIDN'T SAY

The submarine *Squalas* and its crew lay helpless at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean, two hundred and forty feet below the surface. The crew sent up smoke flares, hoping that their location would become known. The submarine *Sculpin* did locate them. A ten-ton diving bell was lowered several times, bringing to safety the thirty-three surviving members of the crew of the ill-fated *Squalas*. Not one of the thirty-three men said to their rescuers, "I will think it over," or "I will wait for a more convenient season," or "I am in good condition as I am," or "There is too much to give up," or "I don't understand the workings of that diving bell," or "I'll think about it until tomorrow!" All instantly and gratefully accepted the means of escape from death.

If you have a kind word, say it,
Throbbing hearts soon sink to rest;
If you owe a kindness, pay it,
Life's sun hurries to the west.

MONDAY, MAY 16

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 27-31

COVERED OVER BY ANGRY SEA!

Two young men were walking along a road on the far north coast of Scotland. On one side was the sea. On the other side were towering, perpendicular cliffs. The road was safe only at low tide. How enchanting were the incoming waves! How awesome were the cathedral-like cliffs! As they loitered on their way, the young men were unmindful of the incoming tide that was gradually encroaching upon the road. An observer upon the lofty cliffs cried out, "The tide is rising! Behind you and ahead of you the waters have already covered the road. If you go beyond yonder outjutting rock, you'll be swept out to sea. By this ascent alone can you escape!"

The travelers did not heed the warning words. They thought that they could reach a point where the road turned up a gorge away from the seashore. As they proceeded, they saw that the sea was rapidly covering the road. They hastened their steps but presently they saw that the sea had already cut off their escape. The billowing waves rolled on and wrapped about the feet of the young men. They cried for help, but their cries were in vain. The angry sea soon smothered their shrieks of despair and carried their dead bodies off.

What a picture this is of all who "neglect so great salvation," heedless of the gathering storm and the coming of the day of wrath!

Seek ye the LORD, while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near (Isaiah 55:6); *Surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him* (Psalm 32:6).

TUESDAY, MAY 17

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 32-37

SPURNING GOD'S MERCY!

In a revival meeting in Shamokin, Pennsylvania, an unsaved man, for whose conversion many had long prayed, was approached during an invitation. Pleaded the personal worker, "Won't you go forward, confess Christ as your Saviour, and seek God's mercy and forgiveness?" The man stood. A sardonic, satanic smile came to his face. Then he began to laugh so loudly that he could be heard through the church. Said he, "It's too late! I've sinned away my last chance!" Then he dashed out the door!

Apparently that man had committed the sin which knows no forgiveness. We marvel at the longsuffering forbearance of God!

How long will He allow sinful man to go on spurning His offer of mercy?

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 38-43

NO NEED TO HURRY

A man who suffered of melancholia dreamed that he went to the abode of the lost—Hell! The devil and his cohorts there were devising means whereby they could best get the lost ones on earth to continue to reject God's offers of mercy through Christ. One demon proposed, "Let's go to them and say, 'There is no God!' " Silence prevailed for a moment. Then one of the denizens of Hell said, "We can never destroy them that way. 'The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.' Most men know that there is a supreme Being." Then another suggested, "Let's tell them that there is no Hell; that a man dies like a dog dies, and that there is no future punishment awaiting the wicked." "We can't get them that way," countered one. "Men know that vice and virtue cannot have the same destiny. Men do

reap as they sow!" When it seemed that the conclave was to end in failure, there was a ringing cry, "I have found it! Go back to earth and tell them that there is a God; that there is a Hell, and that the Bible is the Word of God. Then tell them that there is plenty of time in which to decide the question, 'Where will I spend eternity?' " Then all Hell became vibrant with devilish glee, for the devil and his emissaries knew that if the lost ones procrastinate in the matter of being saved, they usually never decide for Christ.

If some grand thing for tomorrow
You are dreaming, do it now;
From the future do not borrow,
Frost soon gathers on the brow.

THURSDAY, MAY 19

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 44-48

WOULDN'T IT BE COWARDLY?

A brilliant college student became fatally ill. A faithful Christian implored him to turn to Christ for His mercy and forgiveness. "Don't you think it would be cowardly to turn to Him now as my life is ebbing away, when all my life I have been against Him?" "Yes, young man, it would be seemingly cowardly for you to turn to Him now, but it would be *more* cowardly for you not to turn to Him. The Bible gives us the record of one person who turned to the Saviour shortly before he died and with his latest breath asked to be remembered."

Oh the tragedy of having a *saved* soul but a *lost* life!

Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth.

FRIDAY, MAY 20

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 49-54

THORNY PROTECTION

God has devised wondrous ways to protect His creatures and children in danger. An enemy of the English sparrow is the Cooper hawk. This fearful enemy is so bold in the pursuit of sparrows, that it oftentimes follows them close to houses. The sparrows have learned that they can find safety within the thorny barberry bushes. When attacked, they whirl away to this sure refuge. The pursuing hawk swoops down, hops around the thorny bushes and then flies away, frustrated.

Through the Prophet Hosea, God gave this assuring word to His ancient people Israel, "Behold, I will hedge up thy way with thorns!"

The enemy of souls, Satan, asked God concerning His servant Job: "Hast not thou made a hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side?" (Job 1:10).

How protected are God's children when they are in the center of His directive will! How safe are those whose lives are hid with Christ in God!

SATURDAY, MAY 21

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 55-61

THE THIRD MAN ON THE ROPE

The leader, an experienced rock climber, is inching his way up a sheer wall; the second man waits on a ledge a few feet below him; a little lower the third and fourth men stand on a broader ledge. Suddenly and wordlessly the leader falls; passing the second and third men, he twists in midair and, still clutching his ice ax, lands on the shoulders of the fourth man, who collapses with him on the ledge but does not roll over. For a moment all is quiet. Then the other two move forward to help their companions. The leader is unhurt, his friend on whom he has fallen only dazed. Little is said, but each is thinking what might have been had the two gone over the ledge. The rope might have held; the other two might have checked the fall. Yet the strain of two falling bodies is very great. One thinks soberly at such a time; I know, for I was the third man on the rope. Thankfully we pulled ourselves together and went on to complete the climb . . . I look back upon it as a wonderful example of God's gracious protection. Without question we were saved that day from what might have been a terrible accident.

There is an Eye that never sleeps
Beneath the wing of night;
There is an Ear that never shuts,
When sink the beams of light.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. N. D. Wiggs announces that he is available for first and third Sundays beginning July 1. He may be reached at 23 Crescent Drive, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; phone 522-3702.

The Rev. Don Venable announces that he will be available for pastoral services on June 1. He is a member in good standing in the Eastern Conference. He can be contacted by writing him at Route 2, Richlands, North Carolina 28574.

For May 15

RIOT IN EPHESUS

Lesson Text: Acts 19:23-29, 35-40
Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 4:8

I. INTRODUCTION

A truck driver, whose wife has been a Christian for several years, remains unconverted because his job requires him to haul semitrailer loads of beer all over the midwest. He sees an inconsistency in such an occupation with the Christian lifestyle. He may be commended, we suppose, for avoiding a hypocritical double standard, but his choice in resolving his conflict of interest is not to be commended.

The truth is that, in counting the cost of discipleship, this man figures the price is too high. If he were to accept Christ, he could seek employment where his payload would be more consistent with Christian conviction. Of course, this would require his giving up the financial security and other benefits. But he does not want to do that. He has not perceived Christianity as the "pearl of great price" worth everything one possesses in order to obtain.

The conflict between material and spiritual interests is never-ending. Each of us faces it continually. As we consider how we will resolve the conflict, may we never forget these words of Jesus: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33).

The gospel, fully, fervently, and faithfully proclaimed, has ever been an upsetting force in the world. It accentuates the conflict between flesh and spirit, which is vividly described by Paul in Romans 7:18-25.

The Christians were an upsetting force in the apostolic age, for they proclaimed Christ's gospel. Unbelieving and envious Jews in Thessalonica said of Paul and Silas, "These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also" (Acts 17:6). The upsetting character of the gospel is seen also in today's lesson.

The Early Church disturbed its society with its gospel. But are we disturbing ours? Too often the church has lost its message and is apologetic. It has substituted ethical and social reform for the redemptive word, "Christ died for our sins." Wrapped up in its own selfish interests, the church has settled for the status quo, content to leave the indifferent in their indifference, the sinner in his sins.

What gospel are we proclaiming?

In the previous lesson, we studied Paul's activities in Corinth. His successes there aroused the opposition of Jews who attempted to use the forces of the law to silence him. However, their efforts failed, and having earlier been given assurance of God's protection, Paul remained in Corinth for a fruitful ministry of eighteen months. Then he went to Ephesus for a short time, with Priscilla and Aquila. He then went on to Caesarea, then Jerusalem, and finally to Antioch of Syria (Acts 18:18-22).

Paul began his third missionary journey by visiting the churches in Galatia and Phrygia (v. 23) and then coming to Ephesus (19:1). This proved to be a most successful ministry and Paul remained there for about three years. Writing to the Corinthians, he indicated that there were many adversaries there, but that a "great door and effectual" had been opened to him (1 Corinthians 16:9).—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. So far in our study, we have looked at two of Paul's missionary journeys. Have you ever noticed that Paul did not seem to divide missions into Home and Foreign? He simply followed the leadership of the Holy Spirit and preached the gospel of Christ wherever he went. Should we divide missions into two groups of "Home" and "Foreign" today?

B. It is interesting to observe that the reaching out of the gospel to the Gentiles created a problem in the church. It caused the Jews to feel that Gentiles could be saved only after they had been circumcised. It is evident that the growth of any church, local or denominational, causes problems. Could this be the reason that some people are not interested in church growth?

C. There is no better way to study and teach these lessons on the missionary journeys of Paul than to take a map and locate the places where Paul visited and preached and note from the Bible the results that were attained in each place. What may appear as isolated incidents were not that at all, but a part of the whole movement of God calling out a people for Himself.

D. Have you ever noticed how God in His sovereignty uses people to accomplish His purpose sometimes when these people are not aware of the fact that they are being used? We have an illustration of this in the person of the town clerk. There is no evidence that he was a Christian, yet there is much evidence that God used him to protect His people here at Ephesus. God always gets His purpose accomplished.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

Now is a good time to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

between us and God must go. All areas of our lives should be under His control. We need to possess a love for the Word of God and pray for a "servant heart." No confidence should be placed in the flesh and our spirit must be totally dependent on God. We cannot be the people God would have us be and not love people; likewise, we cannot continue to be trapped by bitterness. Our lives must be disciplined, too.

How tragic it would be to hear God say, "My Free Will Baptist child, let Me show you what your life could have been like if only you had done what I asked, if only you had been faithful to Me, if only you had disciplined your life and made it really count, as I wanted you to."

CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 6)

knowledge acquired in the subjects discussed are clarified or corrected. Eighth, the ability to recognize, understand, face, explore, and solve problems is increased. Ninth, creativity is stimulated. Tenth, areas of agreement are found upon which the group can work together for effective action.

Now the discussion method may face some problems. A common one is the domination of the discussion by one or two who may think they know it all. We will consider how to solve this problem in an upcoming article. Another problem may be that the teacher or leader does not have the necessary training or aptitude for leading discussion. Also, some persons strongly resist or are indifferent to discussion. They either feel very threatened by it or would just rather let someone else solve their problems and do their thinking for them. Too much of our teaching has tended to create passive spectators rather than active participants.

(NEXT WEEK: Some pointers on leading discussion.)

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 8)

meal which will be cooked and served on the grounds. After the meal, there will be gospel singing, featuring Bruce and Judy Jones of Ayden, The Gospel Chargers of Winterville, and The Messengers of Winterville. There will be old-fashioned games and other entertainment occurring throughout the afternoon.

The Rev. Frank Flowers, pastor, cordially invites the public to attend any or all of the day's activities and enjoy worshiping God in the old-fashioned way. Visitors are encouraged to wear their old-fashioned clothing or costumes.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

(Channel 7) at noon. Dr. Raper will review Mount Olive's progress toward four-year status and discuss other issues pertaining to private higher education.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, May 12
L. B. Manning Appreciation Dinner — 7:30 p.m.
Farmville Central High School

Monday, May 16—Friday, June 3
First Session of Summer School — 8:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.
Henderson Building, New Campus
Mount Olive College

May is Children's Home Month.

The 1983 Session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention

will convene on

Thursday, May 12, 1983

at

Cathedral Church

Durham

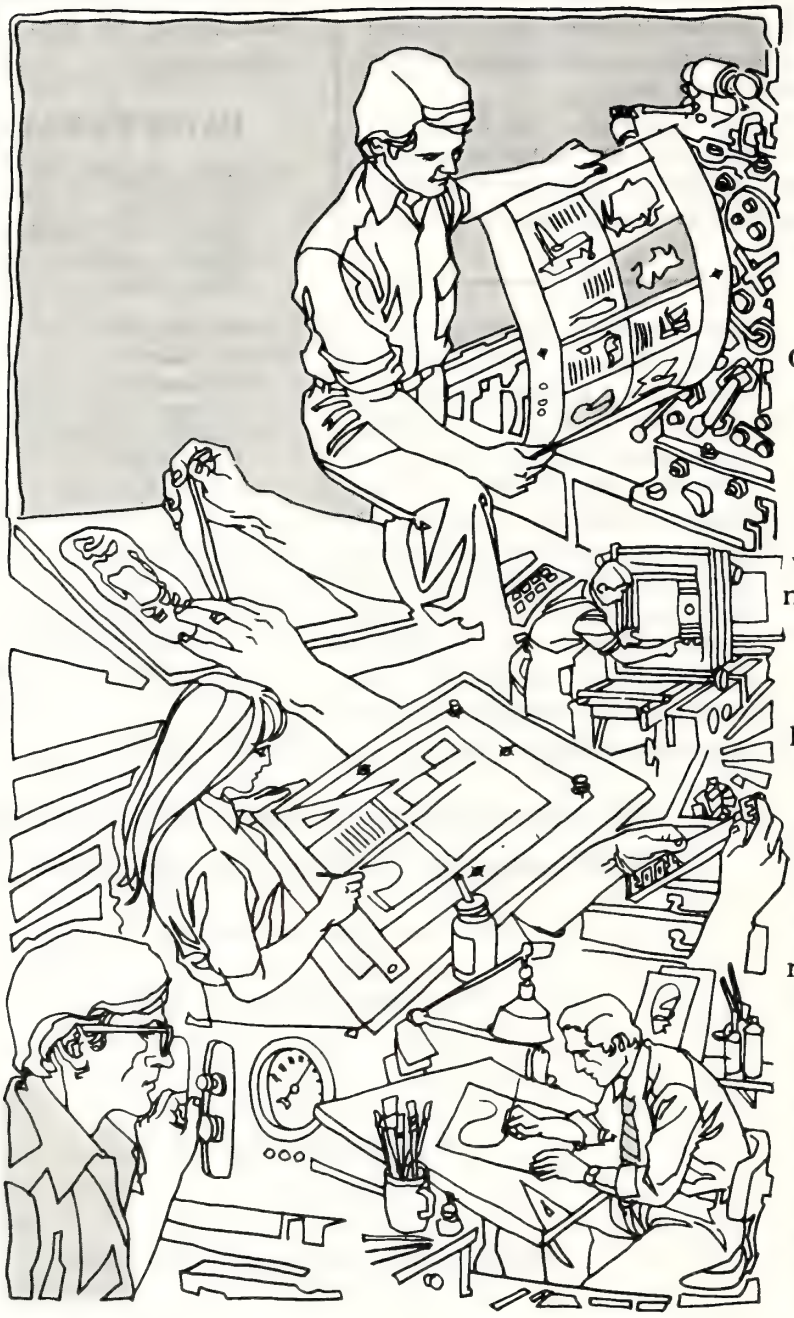
Hosting will be the Piedmont District

Theme: "To God Be the Glory"

Speakers: Mrs. Sandra Jones and Mrs. Linda Baker

Each auxiliary should represent with one delegate for each 25 members or fraction thereof, plus a registration fee of $10.

DIRECTIONS TO THE CHURCH ARE AS FOLLOWS: Take Highway 70 West from Raleigh to Durham, where Highway 98 crosses (overpass) take 98E (also known as Wake Forest Highway or Holloway Street), the church is about 3 miles on the right. If you have any problems, call 596-1501; 596-1500. The Rev. M. E. Cox is pastor of the church.



Why Wait?

Keeping up with what is happening among Original Free Will Baptists is not always an easy task, but it is one we enjoy. With each and every printing of *The Free Will Baptist,* we try to provide information about meetings; details of work being accomplished by denominational enterprises, institutions, and auxiliaries; as well as inspirational materials which will challenge you to greater service. Every Free Will Baptist family should be receiving *The Free Will Baptist.* Why don't you subscribe today? Fill out the form below and mail it to the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513-0158.

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Gary Barefoot, librarian at Mount Olive College, congratulates Blong Moua as the Rev. Bob Harber, pastor of Union Grove Church, admires True Moua's diploma. Both students have been sponsored at Mount Olive College by Union Grove Church near Fremont, North Carolina.

N.C.
(F) F857WB

The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 98 Number 19

May 18, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

John 3:16

During the Korean Conflict, many young people lost their families and homes—in fact, all that they had was destroyed. In order to survive, young boys and girls were forced into the streets of Seoul for survival. Meals were scrounged from trashcans; doorways became beds; new clothes were out of the question unless they were stolen. Getting by was not too difficult during the summer months, but cold weather considerably lessened the chances of survival.

A gentleman in the city noticed one of these street urchins and for days on end he was haunted by the fact that humans had to bear such conditions. The next time he saw the lad he said, "Son, aren't you cold?" The shivering boy answered that he was. "Go down the street to that big white house; you know, the one that has been restored. When the lady answers the door simply say, 'John 3:16.' " The little fellow absorbed the gentleman's instructions and ran down the street.

As he bounded up the stairs, he could see the lady through the windows; she was seated by a roaring fire reading. She quickly opened the door after he knocked. When he said, "John 3:16," she ushered him into the room with the large fireplace. It did not take long before the boy's body tingled because of the warmth he was enjoying. Standing at the hearth he thought to himself, "John 3:16. I don't know what it means but it sure makes a cold boy hot."

A short while passed and the young Korean was led into the woman's dining room. It had been many days since the lad had seen such a meal, especially one prepared for him. All the while he thought, "John 3:16. I don't know what it means but it sure makes a hungry boy full."

Can you imagine what it would be like not to have the benefits of a bathroom? Well, the boy was so excited to take a bath. It had been many days since he had been afforded such a luxury. Besides, what good is a bath when one sleeps in the streets? At any rate, the little fellow had one thought on his mind: "John 3:16. What does it mean? All I know is it sure makes a dirty boy clean."

After taking a bath and putting on new pajamas, the young boy was shown to the lady's guest room. There a comfortable bed awaited him. Just before he fell off to sleep he thought, "John 3:16. I don't know what it means but it sure makes a tired boy sleep."

The kind lady greeted the young Korean when he awoke the next morning and led him downstairs where a sumptuous breakfast was waiting. After eating, the boy and lady retired to the large room with the fireplace. There she opened a Bible and explained the plan of salvation to the young lad, using John 3:16. What a difference it made in his life!

The love of God provides warmth from the cold and darkness of sin; food for hungry souls; cleaning from the dirt, filth and decay of sin; rest for those who are tired of struggling. John 3:16 also provides Free Will Baptists with a message. When are we going to start sharing it?

THE MINISTER'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:
RESPONDING RESPONSIBLY

by De Wayne Eakes

There is a great deal of discussion as to the minister's self-image. W. T. Purkiser, in *The New Testament Image of the Ministry,* states: "Every man or woman who enters the ministry must know who he is, what he actually thinks of his fellowman, and what his special temptations are" (p. 17). Thomas J. Mullen, in *The Renewal of the Ministry* writes:

> One of the hard facts which ministers in every denomination must face is that today a large number of people are suspicious of the preacher's motives . . . The image of a Protestant pastor between Monday and Saturday is confused . . . Instead of a voice crying in the wilderness, the Protestant ministry has demonstrated itself to be a whisper lost in the wind.

Elton Trueblood in *The Incendiary Fellowship* writes:

> There is no escape from the conclusion that the professional ministry is not as attractive as it once was, and that it is difficult to attract the ablest men. There is no real chance of Church renewal unless this problem is solved . . . More and more the problem is that of Image. The professional ministry, especially when they are persons of outstanding integrity, as many are, simply cannot accept the mold into which they are supposed to be cast.

Richard Baxter, in the classic *The Reformed Pastor,* written in 1656, wrote: "All churches either rise or fall as the Ministry doth rise or fall—not in riches or worldly grandeur—but in knowledge, zeal, and ability for their work."

Purkiser concludes, "In part, the deteriorating image of the ministry both outside the Church and among its laity may very well be due to the fact that ministers themselves often betray a profound lack of understanding of their calling" (p. 17).

May I present a question to you? HOW DO YOU SEE THE MINISTRY? Is it a calling? Is it a profession? *It is a mistake* to feel that the appellations of *calling* and *profession* are mutually exclusive. I believe that the gospel ministry is both our calling and our chosen profession. As regards the church and our spiritual orientation we see ministry as a calling just as surely as Isaiah in Isaiah 6:1-8. The term *calling* refers to a *divine summons to a specific course of action.* Originally the term referred to religious activity. The Protestant Reformation expanded the term to include economic/secular activities as well. Presumably, any occupation choice may be a response to a divine summons. As regards our occupation or secular status, "ministry" is our profession. *Professional work is never viewed solely as a means to an end; it is an end in itself.* To say the ministry is a profession is not to downgrade the ministry, or to treat it merely as a job.

In the book *Profession: Minister,* by James D. Glasse, the author gives five characteristics by which the professional may be identified:

1. He is an *Educated Man,* master of some body of knowlege. This knowledge is not secret or understood only by the specially initiated, but accessible to students in accredited educational institutions.
2. He is an *Expert Man,* master of some specific cluster of skills. These skills, while requiring some talent, can be learned and sharpened by practice under supervision.
3. He is an *Institutional Man,* relating himself to society and rendering his services through a historical institution of which he is partly servant and partly master.
4. He is a *Responsible Man,* who professes to be able to act competently in situations which require his services. He is committed to practice his profession according to high standards of *competence* and *ethics.*
5. He is a *Dedicated Man;* the professional "professes" something, some value for society. His dedication to the values of the profession is the basis for the evaluation of his services.

The minister as a professional is dedicated to the fulfillment of his calling which is: *his commitment to the increase of the love of God and neighbor among men, not just in the church.*

James Blackmore, in his delightful and pointed assessment of the ministry entitled *A Preacher's Temptations,* quotes from Sinclair Lewis' portrayal of the charlatan minister Elmer Gantry, as the Rev. Mr. Gantry says:

> Now don't you folks say a word about church affairs this evening! I'm not going to be a preacher—I'm just going to be a youngster and kick up my heels in the pasture . . . Gantry's members snickered and seemed pleased to have their minister become one of them . . . it is doubtful that they forgot that he was a preacher. And neither will our people, even if we do. This is often

(Turn the Page)

a point at which our professionalism breaks down. Our calling is not something we can turn on and off; our calling and ordination make us ministers of the Lord Jesus Christ—not just in certain hours or places, but for ever and all places . . . This does not mean we have to be *mule-faced* and *dressed in black.* Ministers need *to relax and laugh but never by desecrating* the *holy* or by compromising his calling of his Lord.

The ministry to which we are called is a profession and we must be properly equipped professionals in order to fulfill the calling to which we have responded responsibly.

More and more our churches are demanding full-time, resident, professional ministers. Whether they say so or not they are calling for a *professional* ministry as opposed to an itinerant ministry.

What a given minister accomplishes in his ministry is directly related *to how responsibly he responds to his calling professionally.* Just what is involved in the minister's professional development? As previously stated, the minister as a professional must be *an educated man,* he must *master a certain body of knowledge and the foundation of his education is the Scripture as found in the Old and New Testaments.* The areas of expertise toward which the professional minister must work are identified by Bishop Gerald Kennedy in his book, *The Seven Worlds of the Minister,* as: the *preacher,* the *administrator,* the *pastor/counselor* (shepherd of the sheep), the *prophet* (in the role of forth-telling as opposed to fore-telling), the *theologian* (and we are theologians, either good, bad or mediocre), the *evangelist* and the *teacher.* Each minister will be stronger in some areas than in others but he must strive for excellence in each of these areas of church life and professional ministry, in fulfillment of the divine calling. Bishop Kennedy states, "The miracle of the church is that it can survive and grow against great odds through the work of very ordinary men." Ordinary men, I must add, such as you and me. The man who responds responsibly to his calling prepares himself for his profession of mediating the love of God and neighbor among men.

An integral part of the minister's life work is continuing education. *It is sad when a minister reaches the point at which he has learned all he needs to know.* If you desire a "maintenance ministry," maybe you can terminate your education; but for "creative ministry," continuing education is a must. The Ministers' Institute, the J. C. Griffin Brotherhood, Cragmont Ministers' Conference, and the Paul Palmer Institute are efforts at continuous education. Locally through your County Minister's Association and Technical Institute the minister can continue the formal learning process at minimal costs or night courses at Mount Olive College.

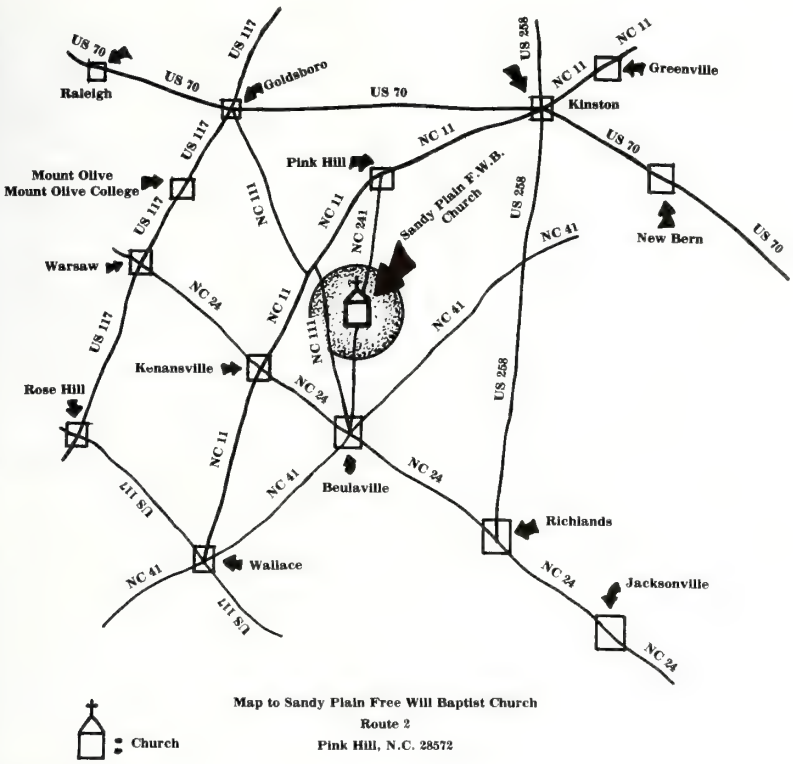
As a part of the minister's professional development he has a need to participate in a professional association with other ministers of other faiths in his local community. Also the professional minister should have contact with other community professionals such as *lawyers* and *law enforcement personnel, school officials, medical professionals, social services personnel* and *local businessmen* and the *average "John Doe" of the community.* Many men limit their ministry and influence by isolating themselves from all other professionals.

As professionals we must take seriously our "Ministerial Code of Ethics" as adopted by our State Ministers' Association. It is a fine, sensible statement which each of us as professional ministers should gladly embrace and attempt to live by. If our ethics among our peers and parishioners fail to reflect the faith and message we proclaim, the laity will not be moved to hold the ministry in high esteem.

Another part of our professional development is the maintenance of a *broad* and *up-to-date library* and familiarity with the classics as a *resource* from which we are constantly called upon to draw as needs arise. This should include subscription to and the use of *good, mainline professional journals* and *periodicals* as well as *good devotional materials.*

These are some of the major areas of concern as I see them in the development of the minister's professional life. The *professional minister* must *respond responsibly* to his *calling.*

LIST OF MOTELS AVAILABLE FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE



Village Motel, 504 North Pine Street, US 117, Warsaw, North Carolina; phone, (919) 293-4301

Warsaw Motor Lodge, 607 North Pine Street, US 117, Warsaw, North Carolina; phone (919) 293-7121

Squire Vintage Inn, Highway 24E, Kenansville, North Carolina; phone (919) 296-1831

Rose Hill Motel, North Sycamore Street, US 117, Rose Hill, North Carolina; phone (919) 289-3163

Downtown Motor Court, North Norwood Street, US 117, Wallace, North Carolina; phone (919) 285-2500

Liberty Inn Motel, North Norwood Street, US 117, Wallace, North Carolina; phone (919) 285-7586

Holiday Inn, Highway 70 Bypass, New Bern Road, Kinston, North Carolina; phone (919) 527-4155

Econo Travel Motel, Highway 70E, Bypass, New Bern Road, Kinston, North Carolina; phone (919) 523-8146

Midtown Motor Lodge, North Heritage Street, Kinston, North Carolina; phone (919) 527-2171

Kinstonian Motel, US 70 W, Goldsboro Highway, Kinston, North Carolina; phone (919) 522-2811

Also, some private homes will have rooms available; for a list of these contact the Rev. Ransom McAbee, pastor; phone (919) 298-3936.

Most locations on the map have motels and restaurants and are approximately 15 to 50 miles from the host church.

Lunch will be provided by the host church on Tuesday. All other meals will be the responsibility of the individual person. Below is a list of local restaurants:

Duff's Family Restaurant, West Main Street, Beulaville, North Carolina

Wagon Wheel Restaurant, Highway 111 W, Beulaville, North Carolina

Avon's Grill, West Main Street, Beulaville, North Carolina

Deno's Pizza and Seafood, East Main Street, Beulaville, North Carolina

Family Restaurant, Highway 241, Pink Hill, North Carolina

Turner's Restaurant, Highway 11, Pink Hill, North Carolina

Also, there are restaurants and fast food locations near each motel listed.

General Conference at Sandy Plain Church

The General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will be held at Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, North Carolina, June 20-22, 1983. The scheduled program is as follows:

MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1983

7:00 p.m.—Youth Program
—Bible Bowl Quiz—Fellowship

TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 1983
Ladies Auxiliary Convention

9:30 a.m.—Registration
10:00 a.m.—Convention Convenes

TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 1983
General Conference Session

6:30 p.m.—Registration of Ministers, Delegates, and Visitors
6:45 p.m.—General Board Meeting
7:00 p.m.—Special Singing and Devotions, Local Church
7:30 p.m.—Official Opening, Conference Secretary, the Rev. Steve Hargrove
—Welcome, Host Pastor, the Rev. Ransom McAbee
—Response, the Rev. Tom Price
7:45 p.m.—Appointment of Committees, President, the Rev. John Owens
—Reading of Minutes
—Old and New Business
—Partial Report of Credentials Committee
8:15 p.m.—Introduction of Speaker, President
—Message, the Rev. Mike Scott
8:40 p.m.—Announcements
—Adjournment, the Rev. John Owens, Conference President

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 1983

9:00 a.m.—Registration of Ministers, Delegates, and Visitors
9:45 a.m.—Special Singing, Host Church
10:00 a.m.—Devotions, the Rev. Jackie Godwin
10:15 a.m.—President's Message, the Rev. John Owens
10:30 a.m.—Final Report of Credentials Committee
10:35 a.m.—Treasurer's Report
10:40 a.m.—Final Business Session
10:50 a.m.—Special Music, Host Church
11:00 a.m.—Conference Message, the Rev. Harry A. Jones
12:00 noon—Announcements
—Benediction

(Turn the Page)

Albemarle District to Have Meetings

Trinity Church near Pantego, will host the Albemarle Union Meeting on May 28, 1983. The Albemarle League Convention will meet at Mount Zion Church near Roper. The scheduled programs are as follows:

UNION MEETING

Opening Session
Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones
10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Steve Hargrove
10:10—Welcome, the Rev. N. Dan Beaman
—Response, the Rev. Joe Griffith
10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charlie Overton
10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time
Business Session
10:40—Report of Children's Home, via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, via Literature
—Report of Press, via Literature
—Report of Missions, via Literature
—Report of Cragmont, via Literature
—Report of Retirement Homes, via Literature
10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union
11:00—Minutes Read and Approved
Morning Worship
11:00—Hymn
11:20—Special Music, Host
11:25—Message, the Rev. N. Dan Beaman
—Adjournment and Lunch

LEAGUE CONVENTION

7:30—Devotion, Mr. Dean Jones
7:40—President's Message, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill
—Hymn
—Recognition of Ministers
—Announcements
—Special Music
—League Program
—Minutes of Last Convention
—Business of Digest Committee
—Report of Digest Committee
—Awarding of Banners and Picture
—Treasurer's Report
—Minutes Read and Approved
—Adjournment
Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

Albemarle District Youth Met

The Albemarle District Youth Fellowship Convention met on April 4, 1983, at Plymouth First Church. "Happiness Is . . ." was the theme for the meeting which was opened with the singing of "Happiness Is the Lord." Devotion was given by Miss Becky Jo Sumner, State Youth Chairman.

Approximately 100 attended the meeting. Sound Side had the largest number, 24, in attendance. Hickory Chapel had the largest percentage, 88%, present.

There was competition for Bible Bowl, Arts and Crafts, Lesson Presentation and Creative Writing. The winners were:

Bible Bowl: First place, YFA—Hickory Chapel Church; first place, AFC—Shiloh Church

Lesson Presentation: First place, YFA—Nikki Overton, Hickory Chapel; first place, AFC—Hanks Reynolds, Sound Side

Public Speaking: First place, YFA—Kim Brickhouse, Sound Side

Christian Writing: First place, AFC—Angela Pittman, Shiloh; second place—Kevin Dilday, Hickory Chapel; first place, YFA—Tony Sawyer, Sound Side; second place—Susan Taylor, Hickory Chapel

Arts and Crafts: First place, YFA—Dale Clary, Hickory Chapel; second place—Nikki Overton, Hickory Chapel; third place—Susan Taylor, Hickory Chapel; first place, AFC—Kevin Dilday, Hickory Chapel; second place—Teresa Jackson, Shiloh; third place—Tammy Whitfer, Union Chapel; second through fourth places, AFC—Tammy Whitfer, Union Chapel, first place, CA—David Pearce, Hickory Chapel; second place—Russ Overton, Hickory Chapel; third place—Gary Slaughter, Hickory Chapel

All of the Arts and Crafts winners will enter their work in the North Carolina State Youth Fellowship Convention. All of the first place winners of the other competitions will go to the State for further competition.

A singspiration was enjoyed under the leadership of the youth from Free Union Free Will Baptist Church.

The program was given by the Rev. Douglas Skinner, pastor of Arapahoe Church. He gave a slide presentation, accompanied with music, of shots from some youth conferences at Cragmont. Truly everyone saw that "Happiness Is *the Lord*" and at Cragmont, especially, and "Happiness Is . . ." carrying Him home with you in your heart.

The benediction was led by Mr. Skinner and the meeting was adjourned.

Mark Watson is president of the Albemarle District Youth and Elizabeth Newbern is assistant secretary.

FWB Minister Retires From Civil Service

The Rev. L. E. Styron, pastor and evangelist, retired from Civil Service, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, on April 1, 1983, after 31 years of service. He resides at 1020 Broad Creek Road, New Bern, North Carolina.

Mr. Styron began his career in Civil Service at Cherry Point with a war-time appointment in 1944, resigning in 1948 to attend Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee.

After working in the evangelistic field and pastoring several churches in Eastern North Carolina, he returned to

(Continued on Page 14)

P. B. I. COMPLETES FOURTH YEAR

The Third Commencement Exercise of P. B. I. conducted on campus.

Faculty, graduates, and escorts march forward to open the Third Commencement Exercise. All seats were eventually filled with many left standing.

Palawan Bible Institute held its Third Commencement Exercise on March 18, 1983. More than 200 people were on hand to witness the ceremonies. Twelve young men and women received the degree of Associate in Biblical Education. The graduates are Luzviminda V. Aurelio, Helena B. Bansil, Dario S. Basingil, Pilita S. Basingil, Elena B. Damlino, Susan B. dela Rosa, Letecia N. Jardin, Rufina H. Lansap, Jaapal S. Ontong, Antonio M. Samones Jr., Andrino R. Segay, and Esmeralda P. Segay.

The following persons received honors during the program: Luzviminda V. Aurelio, First Honor Graduate; Esmeralda P. Segay, Second Honor Graduate; Andrino R. Segay, Good Conduct Award; the Rev. Fred P. Baker, Teacher of the Year; Dario S. Basingil, Student of the Year; the Rev. Crispin Segay, P. B. I. Spirit Award; and Jerito Z. Salute, Most Improved Student.

Special awards were presented to the First Honor Graduates of 1981 and 1982.

Miss Beatriz R. Manzano, Librarian and Teacher, served as emcee. The Rev. Charles I. Barnard, Dean and Business Manager, presented the awards and diplomas. The Rev. Ludgerio E. Malinao, Acting President, delivered the message.

Palawan Bible Institute is a two-year institution operated by the Free Will Baptist Church Philippines. The expressed purpose of P. B. I. is to prepare young men and women to reach their countrymen with the gospel. Our motto is "To Learn and to Serve."

The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists is the major contributor to P. B. I. If you would like to know more about this school, its policies, plans, and needs, please contact the North Carolina Board of Foreign Missions Office in Ayden, North Carolina.

Charles I. Barnard
Missionary to the Philippines

NORTH CAROLINA FWB SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

January 1—March 19, 1983
Convention Receipts

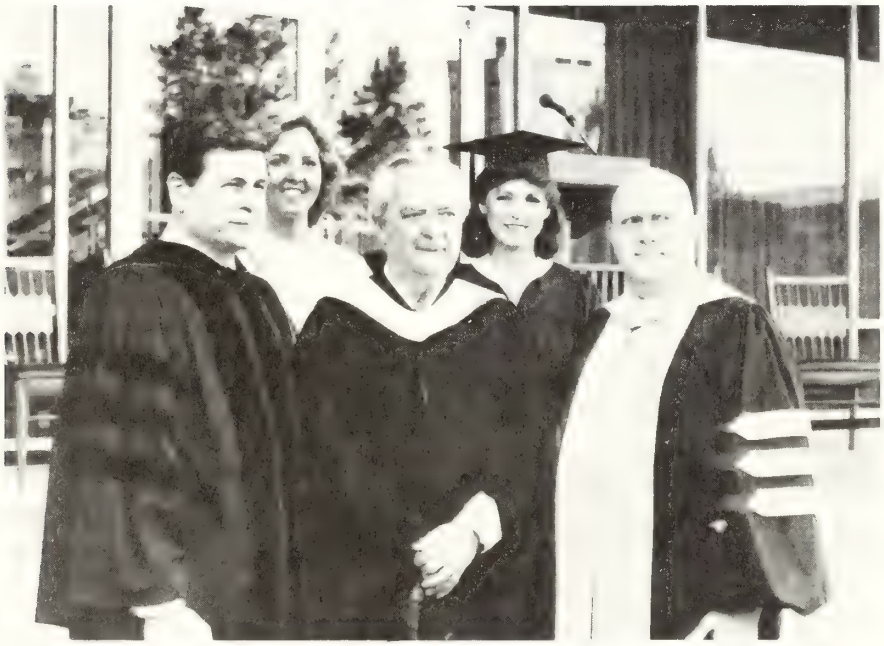
Flood's Chapel	$ 3.00
Cape Fear Sunday School Convention	20.00
Core Creek	12.00
Rose Hill	20.00
Second Union Sunday School Convention	50.00
Hickory Chapel	42.50
Kinston, First	60.00
Smithfield, First	27.50
Total	$235.00

Respectfully submitted,
W. Milton Wiggs, *Treasurer*

EDUCATION IS A FAMILY AFFAIR FOR THE ALLENS

Education has been a group effort for the family of the Rev. Jerry Allen Sr., pastor of Robert's Grove Church in Sampson County. He and his son, Jerry Jr., (left) both received associate in science degrees from Mount Olive College at the 1983 Commencement. Jerry Jr. plans to transfer to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill this fall. The Rev. Mr. Allen's wife, Ruth (center), is secretary in the Admissions Office at Mount Olive. She earned a one-year certificate in business in 1982 at the College and is continuing her studies on a part-time basis toward an associate degree.

JENKINS IS SPEAKER FOR COLLEGE GRADUATION



Dr. Leo Jenkins, retired Chancellor of East Carolina University (center), was the speaker for the 1983 graduation at Mount Olive College. Dr. Jenkins said that Mount Olive College had grown because the people who supported it "elected not to be islands unto themselves." MOC President W. Burkette Raper (left) said that he appreciated the support of Dr. Jenkins and of East Carolina University in the College's early history.

Shown with them is Dr. Opey Jeanes, vice president and academic dean (right), Chief Marshal Robin Johnson of Dudley (left), and Sophomore Class President Renee Bryan of Dudley (right).

BAKER ADVISES MOC STUDENTS TO BECOME RULERS

The Rev. Fred Baker, missionary to the Philippines, advised graduating sophomores at Mount Olive College to "become rulers by a new birth, by a new mind, and through new actions." He was the speaker for the Commencement sermon on May 1, the Sunday before graduation.

Quoting from Genesis 1:26-28, Baker said that God intended for man to "have dominion . . . over all the earth" and that He intended for him to "be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth and subdue it."

Man was made "in the image of God," emphasized Baker, and it was God's plan that man rule the earth. But man sinned and rebelled against God, and he must now reconquer the earth and rule as God intended.

"How can we become rulers?" he asked his audience of prospective graduates, parents, faculty, and College personnel.

"In order to gain control of his environment, man must first experience spiritual rebirth. Through worship, he must reestablish communication with God and he must turn from self toward God," said Baker.

He continued, man must then "develop a new compassion" for his fellowman and "be filled with the spirit" (Ephesians 5:18). He must speak evil of no man.

Finally, because he has experienced a spiritual awakening and developed a different set of values, man must make a new commitment to the will of God. He will put his own desires last and dedicate himself to the well-being of others, Baker added.

Mr. Baker ended his address by challenging the students to see this world as "the arena where God is preparing us for

the ultimate objective of all human history—to share the throne with His Son. Be rulers, subdue your world, and have dominion over it!"

A PRAYER FOR 1983 GRADUATES

Father,

As we turn our faces to the future, grant that our eyes, minds, and hearts may be upon You.

Keep us grateful for Your providential care, and keep us ever mindful of those whom You have used to bring us to this great moment in our lives:

—for parents and families whose love and support have sustained us;

—for teachers and counselors who have taught, challenged and guided us;

—for friends known and unknown who have invested in us; and

—for millions of Americans in all generations whose love for our Nation has protected and preserved the good soil and freedom of our Great Land.

And now, Father, send us forth prepared and committed to serve You and to do the work of Your Kingdom on earth.

Give us a vision of Your purpose for us, a vision that will not be dimmed by love of self or by the sacrifices life may demand of us.

Father, You have created us for Yourself; grant, we pray, that neither petty nor selfish motives shall ever rob us of that purpose.

This we pray in the Name of Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

W. Burkette Raper, *President*
Mount Olive College

1983 GRADUATION SIGNALS NEW ERA AT MOC

The 1983 graduation ceremonies at Mount Olive College on May 6, signaled a new era in education for the institution and for Free Will Baptists.

The 104 graduates who earned associate degrees participated in what will hopefully be the school's final outdoor graduation. Next year, as President W. Burkette Raper noted, the ceremonies will be held in College Hall, the school's athletic-physical education-convention center currently under construction. The building is scheduled for completion in early 1984.

Academically, the class of 1983 had the distinction of being the last to receive their degrees before the College makes the transition to four-year status. Students who enrolled as freshmen in the fall of 1982 will have the option of becoming members of the school's first four-year graduating class in 1986. Mount Olive will continue, however, to award associate degrees for those who wish to transfer or enter employment after two years of study.

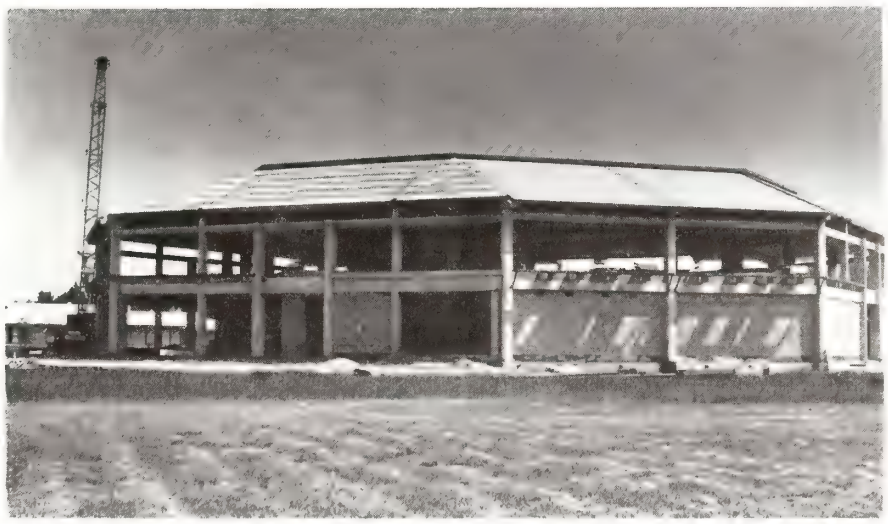
The year 1982-83 was also a record year in terms of Free Will Baptist ministerial students enrolled in college degree programs. A total of 21 students were pursuing degrees in religion and either planned to enter the ministry or were already pastoring a Free Will Baptist Church. This is the greatest number of ministerial students enrolled in one year in the College's history.

The four-year program will mean that Free Will Baptist ministerial students who wish to complete a baccalaureate degree will not have to transfer to another institution.

The College opened in the town of Mount Olive in 1954 with an enrollment of 22 students and survived the 1960s and 1970s when one junior college after another was forced to close its doors or merge with other institutions.

Today the College is engaged in a major building program, and gift support is at the highest level in the institution's history. Mount Olive College stands on the threshold of its most exciting era—four-year status as a degree-granting institution.

COLLEGE HALL PROGRESS CONTINUES



The shape and design of College Hall on the campus of Mount Olive College can be seen in the above photo which was made the first week in May. The $3 million physical education-athetic-convention complex is scheduled to be ready for use in early 1984. It is being financed by Original Free Will Baptists, alumni, and friends of the College.

NEW RESIDENTS

Tiffany

Mark

Mitchell

During the past month we have received three new residents into Group Care. Tiffany, 15; Mark, 14; and Mitchell, 5½. Both Tiffany and Mark were placed in Central Cottage with the older children and teenagers and Mitchell was placed in State Cottage with the younger ones.

We welcome these children with open hearts and hands and only hope that we may touch their lives in some special way.

A WINNER OF MIDDLESEX SCHOOL IN SPECIAL OLYMPIC GAMES

Donna Bailey

We are real proud of Donna and her effort to compete in the Special Olympic Games. As a first place winner she will be representing her school in Greensboro, North Carolina, May 20-22, during the State Special Olympic Games. Donna, congratulations and good luck. We are rooting for you.

Child Care Staff

WHY NOT YOU? YOU ARE NEEDED: BE A FOSTER PARENT

Foster Parents are special people who care about others and who can give affection and care to a child who has no caring person in his or her life. Foster Parents provide a dwelling that is safe and all the daily requirements of food, clothes, shelter, education, spiritual training, and love to help a child grow. The Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc. provides renumeration to foster parents for room and board, clothing allowance, medical and dental expenses.

If you would like to share your life, your home, your family with a foster child, please contact Susan Dalton, Foster Care/Family Services Social Worker, Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc., P.O. Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557; phone 235-2161.

SPONSOR A CHILD FOR CAMP

Each summer the children look forward to attending one of the camping weeks at Cragmont. This year they will be attending the General Youth Conference (June 13-18). The cost of camp will be $75 for camp, plus $10 for spending money. If your church, Sunday school or any individual would like to sponsor a child for camp, please contact us at the Home before May 27. Thank you for caring!

NEED A PROJECT?

The Cottages are in need of bath towels, hand towels, washcloths, and draperies for the windows. We appreciate your response to want to know our needs. We are proud to say Free Will Baptists care.

RETIREMENT HOMES

VACANCY

The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes has an apartment available for immediate occupancy. This apartment is located on the Retirement Homes campus in Middlesex, North Carolina, and is in the George P. Best House. Persons eligible for admission to the Retirement Homes program are ministers or laypersons of the Free Will Baptist denomination or persons who have worked for the denomination for at least 10 years. For additional information or for an application you may call (919) 235-2161 or you may write to us at P. O. Box 250, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557.

If you are not interested in admission yourself but know of someone else who might be, please let them know of this vacancy and how to contact us.

An atheist regularly attended the services of a certain church. Someone asked him, "Why do you go to that church? You don't believe anything the minister says." "Of course I don't but I believe in that minister! He lives the way he preaches," was the reply.

—Selected

For May 22

ON TRIAL IN JERUSALEM

Lesson Text: Acts 22:30—23:11
Memory Verse: Philippians 4:13

I. INTRODUCTION

Many years ago a poor but devout saddler was approached by a wealthy landowner on Saturday night. "I have in my wagon a saddle that needs repairing," he said, "I must have it by noon tomorrow."

"Sir," replied the saddler, "I will be in church tomorrow morning. I can have it for you by Monday noon, however."

"Such impudence!" snorted the wealthy man. "Such religious fanaticism! I need that saddle for a foxhunt tomorrow, and I'll have no trouble finding someone without such a tender conscience about missing church." The poor craftsman regretted losing the business, but he would not violate his conscience.

Some time later a military officer rode up to the man's shop. "Are you the impudent fellow who won't work on Sunday?" he asked.

"Sir," he responded, "I hope I have never been impudent to anyone, but it is true that my religious convictions will not allow me to work on Sunday."

"Good," responded the officer. "I have a large government contract for saddles and bridles, and I am looking for an honest man to fill it. I am confident that I can trust a man with a conscience like yours." The resultant contract was but the first of many that allowed the man to establish a prosperous business, all because he was a man with a conscience.

Living in "all good conscience," as Paul stated it, will not always result in prosperity or happiness. Paul's life evidenced this. Yet, because he so lived, Paul could live with himself and he could live with the assurance that God was watching over him.

Paul's life seems to have been one crisis after another. In last week's lesson we studied his conflict in Ephesus with the silversmiths who saw in Paul a serious threat to their lucrative business. Leaving Ephesus Paul revisited the churches in Macedonia and Greece. Then he began his journey back to Jerusalem, going back through Macedonia and then by ship to Palestine. Along the way he stopped at Caesarea, where the Prophet Agabus brought an ominous warning: if Paul persisted in going on to Jerusalem, he would be seized by the Jews and turned over to the Gentiles. This warning did not deter him from going on to Jerusalem (Acts 20:1—21:16).

In Jerusalem he was attacked by a mob in the temple, and he might well have been murdered had the Romans not intervened. Paul attempted to make a defense before the temple mob, but his account of his conversion only intensified their rage. As a result, the Romans held him in protective custody until a more formal hearing could be made the next day (Acts 21:17—22:29). Today's lesson text begins at this point—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. Remember that in this lesson we are dealing with the third missionary journey of Paul, and it was close to the end of his career. Observe carefully the way the Holy Spirit led Paul and his companions as they went from place to place preaching the gospel.

B. One of the points that we should not miss in this lesson is the fact that even the best of people can get angry and say things that need to be straightened out. We do not know whether Paul was justified in saying what he did when he was struck in the mouth or not, but he did apologize when he found out that Ananias was the high priest.

C. Another thing that should be noted here is the fact Paul evidently had great respect for the office of the high priest, but he had only disdain for Ananias who was acting as the high priest at the moment. This is possible even in our day.

D. The astuteness of Paul cannot be overlooked. When he saw that the Sanhedrin would not hear his message, he succeeded in dividing them because of the difference in belief of the Sadducees and the Pharisees. This probably saved his life.

E. If you miss the fact that God came to Paul with assurance and encouragement, you have missed a great part of the lesson. God does not give grace in anticipation of need, but God gives grace in the need and sustains His children.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Someone has said, "The most fearful thing in all the world is a mob in action." Can you imagine what your church would be like if its members turned into a mob because of something they disagreed over? Pray that it will never happen.—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Jerry Rowe announces that he now has a new address, Route 5, Box 395, Newport, North Carolina 28570; phone 223-4750 (office) or 393-8890 (home).

Now is a good time to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

SUNDAY, MAY 22

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 62-66

OUR TIMES ARE IN GOD'S HANDS

I take my pilgrim staff anew,
Life's path, untrodden, to pursue,
Thy guiding eye, my Lord, I view;
My times are in Thy hand.

Throughout the year, my heavenly Friend,
On Thy blest guidance I depend;
From its commencement to its end
My times are in Thy hand.

Should comfort, health, and peace be mine,
Should hours of gladness on me shine,
Then let me trace Thy love divine;
My times are in Thy hand.

But shouldst Thou visit me again
With languor, sorrow, sickness, pain,
Still let this thought my hope sustain,
My times are in Thy hand.

Thy smile alone makes moments bright,
That smile turns darkness into light;
This thought will soothe grief's saddest night,
My times are in Thy hand.

Should those this year be called away
Who lent to life its brightest ray,
Teach me in that dark hour to say,
My times are in Thy hand.

MONDAY, MAY 23

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 1-5

THERE WERE NO SOLDIERS WITH US

Two missionaries in Malaya walked to a distant village for some money which had been sent to a bank for them. When they were returning to their station, night overtook them. They prayed and committed themselves to God. Then they lay down to sleep on a lonely hillside. Some weeks later a man came to the mission hospital for treatment. He looked intently at the missionary doctor. "I have seen you before," he said. "No, I don't think we have met before," said the doctor. "But we have met before! You were sleeping one night on a hillside. Several of us saw you withdraw some money from the bank. We followed you, intending to rob you when it was dark. But we could not get near you because you were surrounded by soldiers." "Soldiers!" exclaimed the missionary. "There were no soldiers with us!" The bandit said, "But there were soldiers with you—sixteen of them. Their swords were drawn. We were filled with fear and ran away!"

The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them" (Psalm 34:7).

TUESDAY, MAY 24

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 6-10

GOD CUSHIONED THE FALL

I visited one of my friends in a hospital who had fallen some thirty feet from a scaffold. It was a miracle that no bones were broken, and that he was injured only slightly. With a grateful heart he exclaimed, "There is but one explanation of my being alive—God cushioned the fall!" I left him with a deeper appreciation for God's wondrous promises.

The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms (Deuteronomy 33:27).

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 11-16

GOD STILL HOLDS THE KEY!

To a world of bomb and bursting shell,
Sorrow, want and woe no tongue can tell,
Darkness, hunger, death, a living Hell,
God still holds the key!

To an age of greed and bitter hate,
To the hearts that bleed, but hope and wait,
While the hour of time is growing late,
God still holds the key!

To the restless heart that knows no peace,
To the darkened life that nothing sees,
To the slaves of sin that need release,
God still holds the key!

To the heathen lands of deepest night,
To the hardened soul devoid of light,
To a holy life, the path of right,
God still holds the key!

To the unknown years that lie before,
To the unsolved problems yet in store,
To an untrod path, a bolted door,
God still holds the key!

To the boundless wealth within His Word,
Where the trusting soul shall find reward,
To the stores of grace yet unexplored,
God still holds the key!

THURSDAY, MAY 26

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 17-22

KEEP STRAIGHT ON, I'M STANDING BY!

During the dark days of World War II, a British liner left an English port, bound for America. The crossing was very dangerous. Secret directions were given to the liner's captain. They read: "Keep straight on this course. Turn aside for nothing, and if you need help send a wireless message in this code!"

After a few days at sea, an enemy cruiser was sighted. The captain of the liner sent out a message in the special code. The captain's message, decoded, read, "Enemy cruiser sighted. What shall I do?" Back came the reply from an unseen ship: "Keep straight on: I am standing by." Although no friendly vessel could be seen, the liner kept straight on, and at last reached port in safety. Soon afterward, there steamed into the same harbor a British man-of-war. The battleship, though unseen, had been standing by all the time, ready to help in time of need.

God is the Protector of His children. In danger, His mighty arms are about us.

Though we cannot see Him, we know that He is in the shadows, keeping watch over His own.

FRIDAY, MAY 27

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 23-26

SHERMAN WAS RIGHT!

Sherman was right—war is horrible! As a boy, I delighted to roam and romp through the woods, wade in the streams, and swim in the mill pond. It was there that I saw something of the destructiveness of war—millstones once whirring and grinding were now strewn amidst the debris and wreckage of war. The pervasive silence spoke thunderously to my boyish imagination. Yet, even in war, there are sometimes enduring deeds of chivalry and healing acts of mercy.

My grandmother's humble Georgia home stood near a road over which an endless procession of men and munitions of war went their way in "Sherman's March to the Sea." Standing at the gate of the home, my brave grandmother gave a beseeching and tearful distress signal which caught the eye of a general in Sherman's army. Riding swiftly to her assistance, the general saluted and said, "Madam, what can I do for you?" She replied, "Sir, I want protection for my home and my five little children. My husband is with Lee's army in Richmond!" Saluting, the officer galloped away. Presently, two sentinels took their place on either side of the gate. For days and nights, the rhythmic thud of myriads of marching soldiers' feet was heard. The home, however, was not disturbed. Grandmother had sought and secured protection for her home and children!

How protected are God's children who live in the center of His directive will! Above are His watchful eyes. Round about is the delivering angel of the Lord. Underneath are everlasting arms!

SATURDAY, MAY 28

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 27-31

GOD'S FOOL

Before the Communists took over China, John Ting, "God's Fool," did a mighty work for God. He was a member of the "Little Flock Evangelists." By his life and by his witnessing, he won many Chinese to Christ. He had utter faith in God's care, as the following thrilling incident attests.

One day Ting and his companions arrived at a river which had to be crossed. The river was overflowing its banks and the water was deep. Ting and his companions were being pursued by bandits. The situation seemed humanly hopeless! But Ting said, "Our God is a mighty God. He can open a way for us through the river!" He prayed simply and earnestly: "O, Lord, hold back the waters, and make a way for us to escape from our enemies!" Then he stepped into the raging water which swirled about his knees. He motioned to the others to cross as he bowed his head and prayed silently. For a moment, Ting's companions hesitated. Then, to their amazement, they saw that the water was steadily dropping. In a short while, all had crossed the river to safety!

The God who wrought this miracle in answer to believing prayer, the God who divided the Red Sea and rolled back the water of the River Jordan that His people might pass through safely, *still lives!*

He still urges His children: "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3).

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 6)

work in the U.S. Civil Service, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and has served in the Navy Supply until retirement. He is the recipient of several awards, including Incentive Awards, while in government service.

Study Course to Be Taught

A study course on "Evangelism" will be taught on May 23, 1983, at Yelverton Grove Church, Route 2, Smithfield. Mrs. Ruth Warrick will be the speaker. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. It is being sponsored by the Cape Fear District Auxiliaries. The study course co-chairmen are Mavie Daughtry and Shirley Sellers. All churches are invited to attend.

Youth Week at LaGrange, First Church

Youth Week will be May 18-22, at LaGrange First Church. On May 18-20, the Rev. Ron Braxton will be the guest speaker for the youth revival services. These services will begin at 7:30 p.m.

On Saturday, May 21, the film, "Reflections of His Love," will be shown, highlighting the life and ministry of Joni Eareckson. The time of the services is 8 p.m.

On Sunday, May 22, the morning worship service will be focusing upon the youth. Some of the youth sponsors of the church will share how the Lord has blessed the youth of the church and how their own lives have been touched by being a part of this ministry. The pastor's message will be for the youth and how important their work is to the Lord through the ministry of their church. There will be a singspiration at 7 p.m.

The pastor, the Rev. Ronnie V. Hobgood, and the congregation of LaGrange First Church, invite everyone to attend this youth week.

Cape Fear Union to Meet

The Cape Fear Union will meet at Lee's Chapel Church near Dunn, on Saturday, May 28, 1983. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotion, the Rev. Floyd Smith
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response, the Rev. Luby Tyner
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading of Minutes of Last Union
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Message, the Rev. Dean Kennedy
12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Committees
—Unfinished Business
—Lunch and Christian Fellowship

Moderator, the Rev. Jeff Scarborough
Secretary, Ruth L. Warrick

Meetings for Second District of Central Conference to Be Held

The Second District of the Central Conference Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention will be held at Rose Hill Church, Route 1, Winterville, on May 29. The meetings start at 3 p.m.

Ron Braxton is the moderator of the Union Meeting. Melvin Fussell is president of the Sunday School Convention.

Casey's Chapel Church to Have Dedication Services

Casey's Chapel Church near Goldsboro recently completed a building renovation program. The dedication services will be held at 11 a.m. on May 29, 1983. The Rev. Leonard Woodall, former pastor, will be the guest speaker. All former pastors and friends are invited to attend these services.

The Woman's Auxiliary, through the efforts of several fund-raising projects, have donated new pews for the choir loft. Plans are to have them installed in time for the dedication services.

Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall following services. Everyone is invited to pack a lunch and join them for this joyful event.

Annual Layman's League Singspiration to Be Held

The Annual Layman's League Singspiration will be held on May 20, at Ormondsville Church near Ayden and on May 27, at Piney Grove Church (Pitt County) near Greenville. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Central Conference Laymen to Meet

The Central Conference Layman's League will meet on Monday, June 6, at Ayden Church, Ayden. The time of the services is 8 p.m. Every layman keep this date in mind.

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Owen K. Arthur Jr. announces that he is available for pastoral work. He may be contacted by writing him at: Box 445, Bridgeton, North Carolina 28519; phone, 638-5396.

The Rev. Joseph A. Lehmann announces that he is available for supply or pastoral work. He may be contacted at 753-3527. His address is 407 East Church Street, Farmville, North Carolina 27828.

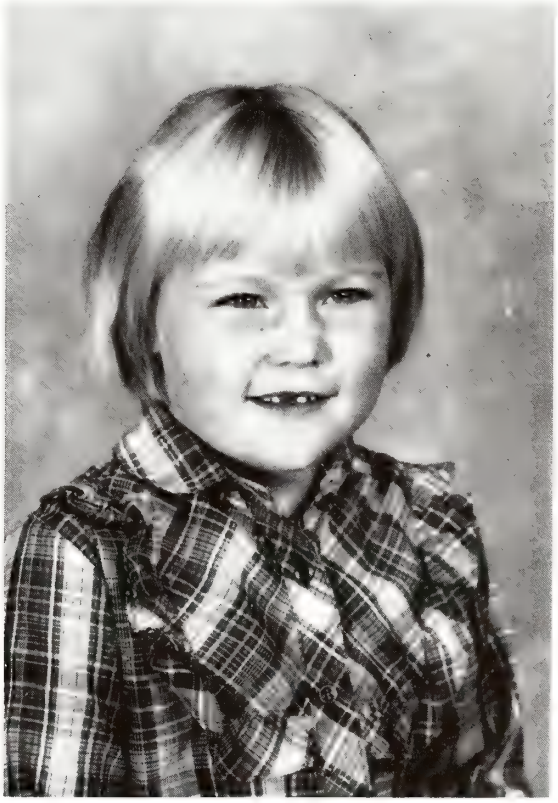
The Rev. D. T. Cleve announces that he is available for pastoral work. His address is P.O. Box 1406, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557; phone, 726-7742.

NOTICE

The Rev. Don Venable announces that he has accepted the pastorate of Powhatan Church, Clayton, North Carolina.

May Is

CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH



May 21 . . . Founder's Day Service at the Children's Home

Guest Speaker: The Rev. James A. Evans, Former Superintendent

Services Begin at 10:30 a.m. / Picnic Lunch at Noon
Open House in the Afternoon

The Free Will Baptist Press
Foundation, Inc.
cordially invites you to attend an
Open House
Saturday, June 4, 1983
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

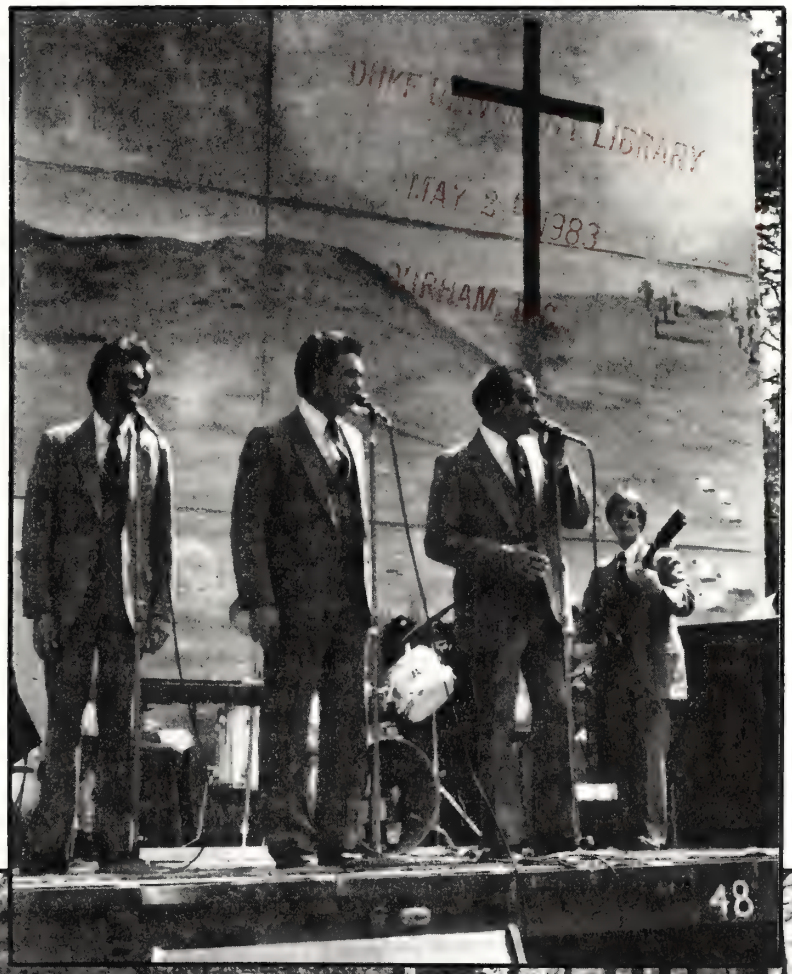
811 North Lee Street
Ayden, North Carolina

Pig Picking at Noon

N.P.
(P) F857WB

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1983
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist



Over 600 people enjoyed the Gospel Music Festival sponsored by the FWB State Layman's League Convention last month at Eagles Nest Conference Center on the campus of Mount Olive College.

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photos by Mary Susan Yates

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May 25, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

"Holy" Ground

When it comes to the Lord's work, people seem to fall into one of two categories: there are those who try to give God their junk, and there are those who try to impress Him. Now no "ground" seems any holier than that which involves money. I realize this, but still would like to share some thoughts on the subject.

A friend of mine was in dire need of a new car. While bargaining with a salesman about a trade of his old vehicle for a newer model, the man asked if he would get a better deal if he threw in a set of used tires with the old car. The salesman looked at the customer and asked, "Why should I want your junk?"

This incident made me think. How many times do we wait until an item is beyond repair—or out of control—before we give it to God? How many times do we give something to the church and ask that it be counted as a contribution so that we might escape giving our tithe in cash? When one family considered giving its old refrigerator for use in the church kitchen, it had second thoughts when the youngest child said, "Daddy, I thought we were supposed to give God the first fruits, not the rotten apples at the bottom of the barrel."

One minister friend made a "deal" with the Lord: he promised to give God the honorarium he would receive from a speaking engagement. Oh, how he regretted that promise when he opened his check and discovered it was for $3,000! Most of us are like the little boy who went to church with two dimes; one was for an offering, the other for an ice cream cone on the way home. When the little fellow dropped one of the coins in the gutter on the way to church, he said, "Sorry about that, God, there goes your dime!"

The Lord does not want our junk, our leftovers, our compromised promises; He wants our best—but this can be carried to the extreme as well.

The speaker at a prayer breakfast was being escorted afterwards through the church's facilities. As as approached the sanctuary his guide looked at his shoes—he was making sure the gentleman's feet were clean before they put one foot on the thick carpet found there. (You see, when a church lays thick carpet, people with dirty shoes and kids are no longer welcome.) As the two men walked through the sanctuary the guide would point at various items and relate their value. "Our stained glass windows are the finest and we paid $ _____ for them. The padded pews were shipped in from Texas—America's best—we paid $ _____. The organ came to us from England. A real gem—it ought to be; we paid $ _____ . . ." he said. Surely, God was impressed, he thought. Before leaving the sanctuary, the speaker eyed a portable altar rail; it was hand-carved out of ash and boasted deep velvet padding. With hushed tones, the guide related, "We used it for communion services several years ago."

(Continued on Page 15)

NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION MEETS

by Mrs. Ruth Warrick

The 56th Annual Session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention met on May 12, at Cathedral Church in Durham, sponsored by the Piedmont Auxiliary Convention. The theme for the day was "To God Be the Glory." The Scripture was taken from 1 Chronicles 16:24.

The opening hymn was "To God Be the Glory." Sara Willoughby, vice president, called the meeting to order, calling on Grace Barbour, president of the Cape Fear District for the invocation.

Rachel Lampley brought the morning devotions. Her subject was "Witnessing for Christ." Dianne Riley sang "Consider the Lilies." The welcome was given by Laura Lassiter. Virginia Joyner responded.

Happy Taylor, president of the convention, called on the Rev. A. B. Bryan for prayer. She then recognized state officers, ministers, district presidents and members present from each conference.

Mrs. Riley conducted an "on the street interview" as follows: John Williams on Cragmont; Bob Harber on Home Missions; Becky Jo Sumner on State Youth Work; Fred Baker and Harold Jones on Foreign Missions; Minnie Chandler on Free Will Baptist Press; Dwight Hawley on Camp Vandemere; Douglas Skinner on the Children's Home; and Dr. Burkette Raper on Mount Olive College.

A short business session followed.

Mrs. C. L. Patrick presented the Life Membership Award to Rose Raper. Mrs. Patrick read Ephesians 4:11, 12, and Proverbs 31 as a basis for the beautiful tribute to Mrs. Raper for her many faithful years of service. Mrs. Raper was given a standing ovation by the convention.

The morning worship was begun by singing the hymn, "Glory to His Name."

Rachel Lampley sang " 'Til the Storm Passes By."

The president presented Sandra Jones, a former missionary, and Linda Baker, current missionary to the Philippines, as the speakers. Sandra spoke on the importance of making Christ known around the world and Linda spoke on life in the Philippines, the food, schooling and housing, but reminded us that they were there to declare "the Glory of God to the heathen."

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" was sung. The Rev. M. E. Cox, pastor, invited us to lunch and prayed the benediction and grace.

Opening hymn after lunch was "Praise Him, Praise Him."

Marie Glenn presented an impressive Memorial Service. Minnie Chandler asked God's blessings on the afternoon session.

Sara Willoughby, giving the registration committee report, stated there were 151 in attendance.

Velma Morris was elected to the Cragmont Stockholders Board. Nina Grace Register was re-elected to the Literature Committee and Alma Buck to the Christian Education Committee.

The group gave a rising vote of thanks to Cathedral Church, the Piedmont Conference, and the Executive Committee for the inspirational convention today.

Hilda Sasser gave the Treasurer's report. We have had a record year with total receipts accounted for totaling $59,998.61.

Acting secretary, Jean Ackiss, gave a report with 19 auxiliaries reaching the A-1 Standard.

Dola Dudley reported the first week of Woman's Conference filled and urged registrations for the second week.

The Rev. Ransom McAbee welcomed us to the General Conference at Sandy Plain Church, June 20, 21, 22.

Dr. Burkette Raper announced a promissory note program soon to go in effect at Mount Olive College.

Dianne Riley gave the closing remarks. She sang, "My Tribute" and prayed the benediction.

Dianne Riley directed the music, accompanied by Carolyn Bennett at the piano, Rachel Lampley on the organ, and McDonal Bennett, bass guitar.

Truly the fellowship and spirit of worship were in evidence throughout the day.

In Memoriam

JAMES CHESTER FOREHAND
(August 24, 1915—
March 16, 1983)

How do we say thank you to our many friends and family members who have given so generously of their time, their love, and themselves. We have been favored with an outpouring of love that very few people are ever privileged to experience. So how should we say thank you?

I believe that we must say thank you first to God for allowing us to be a part of Daddy's life. We must say thank you, not with words, but with deeds done each and every day. We must carry on the love that Daddy felt for his fellowman, not only love, but more than that, caring and sharing. We can feel this love if we will only ask for it, as Daddy did each time he prayed. I'll never forget his prayer that God would "give us more love in our hearts one toward the other."

Next, I believe we must say thank you to each person Daddy would meet. They allowed him to be their friend, to love them, and to share their cares and woes, since for each gift, there must be someone to receive, someone who has a need.

Also, we must say thank you to those who took advantage of him, or seemingly used him to further their cause, because these people, without realizing it, made him a better person, a better Christian, a better father, and a better husband and friend.

And finally, I believe we must say thank you to his sweet and loving wife. Thank you for being his lover and friend. Thank you for not holding him back when you needed something done or the money for something else. Thank you for allowing him to help in his own loving way. Thank you for supporting him, even when you didn't completely agree. Thank you for being the mother of his children and loving us as you do.

We cannot say an adequate thank you, but dear God, we can dedicate ourselves to you the way he did, and live our lives for you as best possible. We are so very thankful, dear God, but how do we say THANK YOU.

A deacon and an active member of the Sherron Acres Church in Durham since 1952, James Chester Forehand died on March 16, 1983, at the age of 67. He was born in Wayne County, the son of James Bryant and Effie Bowden Forehand, and was reared in the Stoney Creek Church.

Surviving are his wife of 49 years, Zilpha Pierce Forehand; three sons, J. Thomas of Fort Worth, Texas; the Rev. Kenneth W. of Durham, pastor of Unity Church, Durham; and Morris E. of Route 1, Morrisville, North Carolina; two daughters, Carol F. Johnson and Sandra F. Watkins, both of Route 1, Morrisville; 11 grandchildren; 1 brother, J. Milford Forehand of Goldsboro; and 2 sisters, Margaret F. Kleinert and Lillian F. Jones, both of Goldsboro.

A godly man, loved by family and friends, he supported and loved his church and his pastors through the years. He worked diligently in all areas of his church and neighborhood to help improve conditions and spread sunshine wherever he went. He retired from Southern Railroad in 1975 after 41 years service, and enjoyed his last years actively helping others in any way he could.

His influence on his family and friends will live on and grow. He will truly be missed by all who knew him.

"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold" (Proverbs 22:1).

Carol Forehand Johnson

LLOYD DILDAY

On April 4, 1983, the life of Lloyd Dilday came to a close at the age of 88. He was an honest, self-controlled, hard-working man. He was gentle and kind to all. He showed much love to the poorest as well as to the richest. He was always the same no matter where one would see him.

He was a faithful member of Hickory Chapel Church, and he wanted what was best for the church. When it came to the business of the church, his sound judgment was great. He never wanted anything just to be like other churches, but only if it was for the best, and would glorify God to the highest. But if the majority ruled, he kept on loving and working hard. If there was building to be done, he gave a day's work and supervision. He filled his place in life, and church as few people do. His church has been made better by him, having been a part of it, and the community also a better place for others to live in.

Mr. Dilday was a man of integrity in the fullest sense of the word, and was to be loved, and appreciated, and admired, for to know him was to love him. His family was very fortunate to have a father so long, and truly a man of his qualities, he will be greatly missed, not only in the home, but church and community as well.

His suffering has been replaced with peace and joy unspeakable, and a crown received, for a true and faithful servant, and a life well lived.

Bettie Tinkham

(Continued on Page 6)

Mount Zion Church Gets New Members

Melissa Modlin, Travis Hardison, and Michelle Hardison with their pastor, the Rev. Charlie Overton.

Melissa Modlin, age 14, Travis Hardison, age 10, and Michelle Hardison, age 13, recently accepted Christ, were baptized and were received in full fellowship in Mount Zion Church near Roper, North Carolina. The Rev. Charlie Overton is pastor of the church. The Mount Zion Church is very proud of its new members. The two Hardison children came to the Mount Zion community from Virginia.

Sound View Auxiliary Meets Requirements for A-1 Standard

Sound View Auxiliary has met A-1 Standards for the year of 1982. They worked very hard for this and raised around $1,000 last year. Missions received $350 of this amount. Missions is the number one concern of the auxiliary (both Home and Foreign Missions). They also sponsor two youth groups.

The pastor, the Rev. Francis Garner, and his good wife, stand behind the auxiliary. Mrs. Garner is the program-prayer chairman of the auxiliary.

For 1983, the auxiliary chose a Woman of the Year. She was Mrs. Bernice Henderson, who was honored on Sunday, May 1. Mrs. Henderson has not been with the people at Sound View too long, but she and her husband, Bill, work hard in the church. She is the benevolence chairman for the auxiliary. She does a good job and the people at Sound View love her. At Easter, for instance, she gave each child a chocolate bunny and a shell bunny rabbit which she made. She loves to visit the nursing home and take the shut-ins something special. She is a wonderful mother to one son and she also has a grandson.

Mrs. Henderson is a praying person and she always says where the Lord leads her, she will follow. For a gift, the auxiliary is sending her to Vandemere during the Auxiliary Week.

Gold City Quartet To Have Concert

The Gold City Quartet from Dalonega, Georgia, will be featured in concert at White Oak Church in Bladenboro, on Thursday night, May 26, at 7:30 p.m. The church is located on Highway 211 Business in Bladenboro. The pastor, the Rev. Jack Lassister, and the congregation invite the public to attend.

Youth Choir Presents Musical

The youth choir of Core Creek Church in Cove City, North Carolina, will present a musical entitled "The Runaway" on Sunday, June 5, at 3 p.m. The musical is about Jonah and how he felt that he could escape God's plan for his life.

Everyone is invited to attend this special event. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Bass Mitchell. The youth choir director is Julia Bircher.

First Union of Western Conference to Meet

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet on Saturday, May 28, 1983, with Pleasant Grove Church, Wayne County. Everyone is invited to attend this meeting. The Rev. De Wayne Eakes will preach the Union message.

Eastern Conference Layman's League to Meet

The Eastern Conference Layman's League will hold its meeting at Macedonia Church on May 28, 1983, at 7:30 p.m. The Macedonia Church is located at Ernul, 6 miles south of Vanceboro on county road 1482. The attendance of all Eastern Conference laymen is urged.

Sandy Plain Church Youth to Present Musical

The Sandy Plain Church Youth, Pink Hill, will be presenting the musical, *Kid's Praise II,* "a joyfullest noise" by Ernie Rettion and Debby Kerner, on Sunday, June 5, at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and meet Psalty, the singing songbook who teaches kids how to praise the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ through songs, laughter, music, choreography and drama. This will be under the direction of Mrs. Pam Kennedy.

COMING EVENTS

May—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Children's Home Month

June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month

June 13-17—Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference

June 13-18—General Youth Conference, Cragmont; the Rev. Harry Grubbs, director

June 13-17—Woman's Auxiliary Conference at Camp Vandemere

June 19—Superannuation Day in Local Churches

June 19—Father's Day

EDUCATIONAL CENTER

The Educational Center

The Educational Center, which the Woman's Auxiliary has sponsored for the past several years, is almost completed. The Educational Center is located in the Albemarle Building, its original location, and consists of three rooms. One room is used as the office of the Educational Director and tutors; the Multi-Purpose Room, is used for private tutoring and testing. The third room, the Media Room, for the library and an arts and crafts space.

We are able to provide for 20 children at the time in the Educational Center. During the school year we will keep the library open and tutor the children two nights per week. Our Educational Center will be a great asset to our total child care program, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the ladies for their loving dedication to this project.

We invite you to come and visit the Educational Center. We feel you will be proud of what the Auxiliaries have made possible with God's help.

FIRST AID CERTIFICATION

Recently a course in first aid was offered to the staff of the Home. The course was taught on campus by Steve D. Creech, who is a certified instructor from the Red Cross. The employees took this course very seriously and all who participated were able to pass the test for certification. Altogether, we have 10 employees who are certified in first aid care. The Home strives to meet all the needs of the children in our care and having employees who are qualified to handle emergency situations is another way of offering quality services to our children.

INFORMATIONAL UPDATE

Children in Care: Currently the Home is serving 26 children. Of this total, 20 are in group care on the campus at Middlesex, 4 are in foster care in various foster homes, and 2 are in higher education.

Campus Life: The Home is operating 2 cottages for children, Central and State, which are our newest cottages. They are also the most comfortable and economical to operate. These cottages are staffed by houseparent couples who live with the children 24 hours per day, supervising their daily life. The children attend local public schools, and the Home provides additional educational service through its Educational Center. Our children attend local churches, and occasionally services are held on campus in Memorial Chapel by visiting church groups. Daily devotions are held in each cottage and our staff strives to reflect a Christian attitude in all areas of daily life in order to set proper examples for the children. The children's medical needs are met mainly by local doctors, clinics and hospitals. The Home also provides psychological services to the children. A social worker works with each child and its family towards solving some of the problems that caused the child's placement outside the family and towards helping them to handle their problems.

IN MEMORIAM

(Continued from Page 4)

MRS. LOUISE NICHOLS TYSON

On December 4, 1982, God called His faithful servant, Mrs. Louise Nichols Tyson, 78 years old, of the Red Oak Community. She was the widow of Mr. Perene Tyson, who was superintendent of Piney Grove Sunday school for many years.

A member of Piney Grove Church, she was active in the church as long as her health permitted. Her funeral service was conducted in the Wilkerson Funeral Chapel by the Rev. Tommy Evans, Dr. Harold Deitch and the Rev. Ben James. Burial followed in Greenwood Cemetery. The large attendance showed how much she was loved by her community and family.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Elvy K. Forrest and Mrs. E. T. Clark; two sisters, Mrs. Ruland W. Davenport and Mrs. Raymond L. Smith; three brothers, Bernard Nichols, C. V. Nichols, Linwood Nichols, and three grandchildren.

First, may we extend to the family our deepest sympathy.

Second, we want to express our appreciation for her love and work for her church, and our respect and admiration for her.

Third, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, a copy to *The Free Will Baptist* for publication and a copy retained in the minutes of the church.

Charlotte Crawford
Fannie Nobles

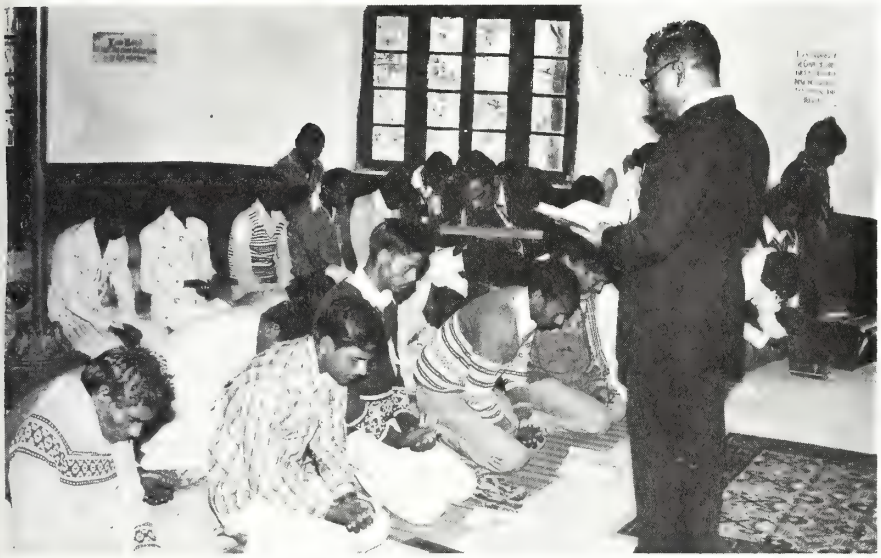
THE REV. HILERY M. MINCHEW

At approximately 1:50 a.m. on February 22, 1983, the death angel claimed the Rev. Hilery M. Minchew. Our Heavenly Father called him home to His Kingdom for eternal rewards.

He left behind his loving wife, 5 sons and 5 daughters, 24

(Continued on Page 15)

OUR MISSIONS



Dr. Lall speaks at Seminar.

Someone asked if the word "politics" appears in the Bible. Let me add a few more words such as "subscription," "church tax," "carnivals," "sales," that are commonly used in our churches and ask if this terminology is found anywhere in the Bible in relation to "giving to God" or "the church" including missions. I do not find any of them in my Bible. Just as "95% of our ethical choices are . . . culturally and traditionally influenced and not backed by the Scripture" many of our habitual ways of giving are wrongly motivated and practiced in the churches. They are passed on from one generation to another; so much so that the system of giving to the church and even to missions has become unscriptural. Most of what we give is aimed at getting back with interest in the form of privileges, claims, positions, honor and blessings. "Self-fulfillment and self-advancement have become our chief goals."

But then, what do we find in the Bible to instruct us about giving to the Lord—to the church and missions? "Offerings," "sacrifice," "tithes," "grace," "liberality"—each word carrying tremendous truth and significance and therefore recommended for our studies, understanding and application. There is a command to obey and a love to manifest.

Giving to the Christian missions is nothing less than giving to God for it is His work. Sometimes we treat Christian missions merely as philanthropic societies and we are moved by the physical and economical conditions of people and thus our spirit of compassion is wrongly applied. This leads to wrong motivation in giving as we forget that our giving should be basically in response to His Great Commission. God's standard must be maintained. There is no easy way of giving or receiving—no pressure, no inducement, no almsgiving, no competition whatsoever. The biblical principles are (1) consecration of our total life to the Lord, (2) joy in giving, (3) willingness, (4) perfect heart, (5) humility, and (6) praises and thanksgiving (1 Chronicles 29 and 1 Corinthians 8, 9). "For all things come from thee and of thine own have we given thee." We thank God for those who give in this order.

Dr. Emmanuel M. Lall

THE LORD WORKS WONDERFULLY!

As I repeatedly say, the Free Will Baptist work in India is rooted in the most rural parts of northern India where there is tremendous opportunity for winning lost souls. Our church is, therefore, called the living and witnessing church not only by our people but by many belonging to other church denominations. However, it is very risky and fearful to work among people who are very orthodox and rigid in their faith. It does need tact and ability to approach them and challenge them. The time comes that they like to receive the Word of God which assures them eternal life!

In this very context, I had an opportunity, through one of our church workers, Sohan Lal, to come across people in the village of Rampura where as many as 400 were attracted with the preaching and hearing of the Lord Jesus Christ last year. I maintained connection and concern with them, arranging for a deacon to preach to these people at least every Sunday. I did manage to visit with them twice in three months and spend some time with them. During this time they were incited by some communalists to manhandle me. Such a news that if I visited with them again I would be physically harmed was intentionally brought to my ears. I was not afraid and did continue my visits and was not harmed in any way. Whenever I am in the field of my work I never forget the promise our Lord made that He is always with us.

Our efforts bore fruits and the people desired to accept the Lord as their Saviour. I continued to look for the proper time for bringing some of them into His fold. On March 3, 38 were saved and brought to Christ. The remaining lot of

(Continued on Page 15)

STUDENTS SUPPORT COLLEGE HALL

The Mount Olive College Student Government Association, represented by Earl Worley, newly elected SGA president (center), presents a $1,000 check to Jim Coats, vice president for finance at MOC (left), to be applied toward the cost of construction for College Hall. At the presentation were (from left to right) Jim Coats; Trustee, Edna Scarborough, of Mount Olive; Earl Worley of Princeton; Trustee, William S. (Bill) Wilkins, of Mount Olive; and Jimmy Gray of Morehead City, outgoing SGA president. The money was raised by the student organization through various projects during the past year. College Hall is a $2.8 million construction project designed to serve the institution and the church as a physical education, athletic, convention center.

MOC TO SPONSOR BASKETBALL CAMP

Athletic Director Bob McEvoy has announced that the College will sponsor a Basketball Camp the week of June 27—July 1 for all boys ages 8 to rising seniors in high school. Hours for the school will be 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Basketball fundamentals and team play will be stressed, and boys will be divided into groups based on talent, age, and size. Participants will receive both individual and group instruction, with provisions made for ample practice and drills.

Camp Directors are Bob McEvoy, men's basketball coach at Mount Olive; Billy Lee, head basketball coach at Pembroke University; and Sprunt Hill, basketball coach at Southern Wayne High.

Cost for the camp is $50 for day campers and $100 for resident campers. For more information, contact the Athletic Department, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365. Phone: 658-2502.

Both the facilities of Mount Olive Junior High and Southern Wayne High School will be used. Next year College Hall will be used for all athletic camps at Mount Olive College.

In addition to the Basketball Camp for boys, the Athletic Department will also sponsor an All-Sports Camp, July 11-15, for both boys and girls, ages 6-14. This camp will provide opportunities for students to learn and develop skills in softball, soccer, tennis, golf, and other team sports. For more information, contact the Athletic Department at Mount Olive College.

ACKISS NAMED SECRETARY OF THE YEAR

Mrs. Jean Fillingame Ackiss, associate director of development and secretary to the

Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss

President, has been named as the "1983 Secretary of the Year" by the Mount Olive Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mrs. Ackiss, a 1960 graduate of Mount Olive College, has been a secretary at the College since 1965. She was nominated for the honor by President W. Burkette Raper.

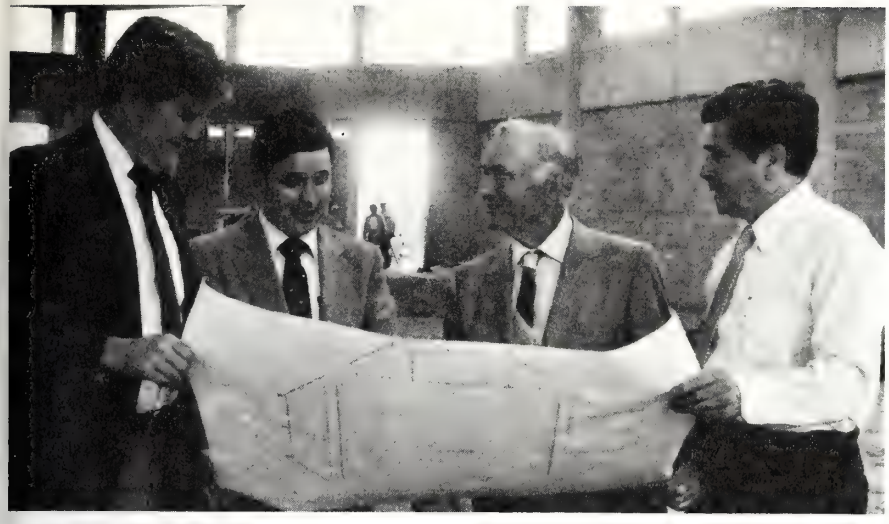
A member of Spring Hill Church in Wayne County, Mrs. Ackiss is a Sunday school teacher, president of the Woman's Auxiliary, and a member of the church choir.

MERCER ELECTED TO CONTACT BOARD

Calvin Mercer, professor of religion at Mount Olive College, has been elected to a five-year term on the Board of Directors of the organization CONTACT in Johnston County. CONTACT is a Christian telephone help-line ministry with centers in the United States and several foreign countries. Volunteers receive extensive training and serve apprenticeships before serving. Local chapters include Smithfield, Durham, Fayetteville, High Point, Winston-Salem, Charlotte, and Lexington.

Mr. Mercer is a member of the First Church of Smithfield.

EXAMINE PLANS FOR COLLEGE HALL



Three Free Will Baptist trustees examine plans for College Hall at the building site with President W. Burkette Raper (right). They are (from left to right) Clayton Everett, a member of Heritage Church in Charlotte; Charles Pittman III, a member of Daniels Chapel Church near Wilson; and Woodrow McCoy, a member of Core Creek Church in Cove City.

College trustees toured the building site before their regularly scheduled business session on May 3. At that time, Jim Coats, vice president for finance, reported that approximately $306,000 would be needed to complete the financing of the physical education-athletic-convention center, and an additional $300,000 would be required to furnish it. The Board voted to seek loans from individuals and churches to complete the financing for College Hall.

The loans will be much like bonds: the major difference will be that the lender will receive a promisssory note backed by the full assets of the College. The length of the loan will vary from one year to seven years. Interest rates for the loans will be announced soon, and it is expected that they will be slightly higher than money market rates.

By using promissory notes rather than bonds, President Raper estimated that the College will save approximately $15,000 on the additional financing needed to complete College Hall.

The loans, like the bonds, will be retired through gifts and pledges.

Persons interested in making loans in the amount of $1,000 or more are invited to contact the Office of the President. The loan proceeds may be transmitted to the College any time during the remainder of 1983.

"IT'S A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL"

by Aileen Hawley

"It's a Small World After All" is a theme for one of the attractions at Disney World. It could easily have been the theme for Billy Graham's School of Evangelism in Orlando, Florida, during the second week of April.

Dwight and I left North Carolina knowing that Grady Tucker, Stanley Buck, Ray Williamson, Graham Lane, and Owen Arthur would be attending. Three of them had attended before and had shared what an impact the school had had on their lives. During the first session, from a group of 1134, we recognized five more faces: Phillip and Sheryl Wood, Ed Thornton, Ronnie Hobgood and Gary Bailey.

Our social life included talking, eating, meeting new people and being entertained by Phil Wood and Grady Tucker. (By the way, Phil was quoted in the *Orlando Sentinel* along with his picture, and he has a copy if anyone is interested).

Our main purpose however was to better equip ourselves spiritually. Under the leadership of renowned speakers, we were ministered to in various ways, but there seemed to be a common emphasis to me.

That emphasis is to live a holy life before God so that my life reflects Christ. It sounds so simple but we can get so involved with church, clubs, friends and family that we sometimes let our own lives get cluttered. Although there are no easy answers for reducing the clutter, faith, prayer, Bible study, and obedience set our priorities.

The School of Evangelism is sponsored by the Billy Graham Association and is conducted several times a year throughout the United States. Its purpose is to better equip the minister by teaching and encouragement. There were people from 39 states and 4 other countries attending the school.

For 5 days we were saturated with about 30 hours of preaching and teaching on a variety of topics including "Life-Style Evangelism," "Burn-Out," "Media," "The Minister's Personal Needs and Priorities," and "Christian Drama."

Forty topics were presented in two ways. Each morning we assembled to hear 4 excellent speakers. In the afternoon, we had our choice of attending 2 seminars which were less formal.

I hope that more of our ministers and their wives will be able to attend next year. It is one of the wisest investments a church can make in money and time for its pastor and his wife.

Woman's Auxiliary News

Treasurer's Report, End of Fourth Quarter, April 30, 1983

Balance Brought Forward, January 31, 1983			$ 4,714.55
Receipts			
General Fund:			
Registration Fees	$ 650.00		
Contributions	25.00		
Per Capita Dues	785.87		
Interest	279.63		
Promotional Fund (CSF)	152.13		
Life Award Fees	10.00		
Refund of Camp Advance	50.00	$ 1,952.63	
Denominational Enterprises		13,797.98	
Total Receipts			15,750.61
Total for Which to Account			$20,465.16
Disbursements			
Convention Expenses and Allocations		$ 457.91	
Denominational Enterprises		13,797.98	
Total Disbursed			14,255.89
Balance to Account for, April 30, 1983			$ 6,209.27
Summary			
Branch Banking and Trust Company (checking)			$ 3,209.27
Mount Olive College Bonds			3,000.00
			$ 6,209.27

Denominational Enterprises Report

	Itemize	Received	Disbursed
Home Missions	$	$ 1,659.31	$ 1,659.31
Foreign Missions:			
General Fund	599.37		
Mexico	225.00		
Timmons Memorial Fund	189.50		
Palawan	16.36		
Telethon	350.00		
India Pastor	80.00		
Fred Baker	237.04		
State Project (Missionary Wives)	1,414.43	3,111.70	3,111.70
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	$ 134.55		
Alice Lupton Scholarship	66.50		
J. C. Griffin Scholarship	25.00		
Anna Phillips Student Aid	243.00		
State Project (Dishwasher)	1,550.74	2,019.79	2,019.79
Children's Home:			
General Fund	$ 1,090.59		
Child Support	60.00		
Music Lessons	45.00		
State Project (Media Center)	903.93	2,099.52	2,099.52
Superannuation		358.74	358.74
Cragmont Assembly, Inc.		1,856.86	1,856.86
Retirement Homes, Inc.		1,092.85	1,092.85
Life Award Fees (Mount Olive College		25.00	25.00
Central Conference Missions		205.00	205.00
*Christian Service Fund			
Missions	$ 304.26		
Mount Olive College	304.26		
Children's Home	288.21		
Cragmont	288.22		
Superannuation	152.13		
Retirement Homes	152.13	1,369.21	1,369.21
Total		$13,797.98	$13,797.98

*10 percent retained for promotional (See Receipts $152.13)

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Raymond R. Sasser, *Treasurer*

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

(This is the third and final part of the article on discussion as a teaching method.)

In the last two articles we briefly examined what discussion is and some characteristics of good discussion as a teaching method. Now let us consider how to lead discussion.

First, plan for discussion, that is, carefully plan for it within your overall lesson plan. You should have mastered your subject so that you can know exactly when to use the discussion method in the course of the lesson.

Second, be conscious of how the room is arranged. Room arrangement can work for or against discussion. For example, seating in rows with the teacher at front makes for teacher domination, that is, the teacher is at the center of the class. Good discussion is when there is interaction between members in the class which does not have to go through the teacher. Having the group sit in a circle or around a table are good arrangements for fostering discussion.

Third, normally you will need to introduce the subject to be discussed. It should be introduced in an interest-arousing manner and in a way that the subject or problem to be discussed is clearly understood. The following are some ways to do this: a carefully prepared question, a story or illustration the class can readily relate to, a lecture that briefly gives some background information, a filmstrip, role playing, or any number of other creative ways.

Fourth, once the discussion begins your role becomes one of a guide. Keep them on track, do not be afraid to offer your own ideas but do not dominate, do not let a few monopolize the discussion, encourage every

(Continued on Page 15)

PLAQUE PRESENTED

King's Cross Roads Church Congregation

On Friday night at the close of its revival, the Rev. Charles Crisp presented a "Key of Excellence Plaque" to the King's Cross Roads Church near Farmville.

The King's Cross Roads Church is the top contributor to the Home Missions program. This church has given over $2,500 in support of Home Missions this year. The Rev. Bruce Jones says, "Without new churches being added to our denomination it is impossible for our denomination to grow."

Our congratulations are extended to this fine church and its pastor, the Rev. Bruce Jones.

BOOK CORNER

Frank R. Harrison, Chaplain, Mount Olive College

Small Churches Are the Right Size

by David R. Ray (Pilgrim Press, 1982)

Mr. Ray is the pastor of a small church (United Church of Christ) and brings to the reader's attention that small churches do have a ministry. This book is a new slant on the theme of church renewal. The focus is on the uniqueness of small churches and establishes an agenda that large churches would do well to consider.

The book is small but packed with ideas and insight into the ministry for a small congregation. The author details the transformation of his church, describes their ministry, and shows how they can function effectively in worship, education, mission, caring, and maintenance.

The author is convinced that small churches have the potential to be intimate, people-conscious communities of faith whose ministries can avoid the structuredness of large churches. The small church can offer individualized educational opportunities and urges the entire congregation to be involved in missions.

Mr. Ray's book is a positive contribution to church growth literature as he emphasizes the possibilities of the small church.

RETIREMENT HOMES

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
April, 1983
Total $315.00

ALBEMARLE	
Mount Zion	$ 25.00
St. Paul	25.00
Auxiliary Convention	10.00
Total	$ 60.00
CENTRAL	
Black Jack	$ 5.00
Edgewood	5.00
Gum Swamp	100.00
Total	$110.00
EASTERN	
Smith's New Home	$110.00
Total	$110.00
WESTERN	
Sherron Acres	$ 25.00
Total	$ 25.00
OTHER RELIGIOUS	
St. Cloud, First (St. Cloud, Florida)	$ 10.00
Total	$ 10.00

THE STRENGTH AND POWER OF GOD

Often God seems far away,
But that's only in your mind;
God is always with you,
And never far behind.

God is strength and power,
More than you've ever known;
He's always listening to your prayers,
To uplift the seeds He's sown.

God is only God some say;
This shows how little they know;
God is love almighty,
A stronger love no one else can show.

All that you have to do
To be saved is pray to Him;
God is waiting for you
To ask Him to come in.

After this day of great blessing,
Your life will be smoother still;
No matter what you may do or say,
His love you can never kill.

So please sinners pray to Christ Jesus;
He's the only way for you;
He'll pave your way to Heaven,
On a road that is so true.

The preceding poem was written by Ms. Tracey Vandiford, the 15-year-old YFA president at Marsh Swamp, after arriving at church on April 24, 1983. She shared it with the church at morning services.

SUNDAY, MAY 29

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 32-35

HOW HE KNEW

An English woman whose Christian work incurs a large outlay every year, and who trusts to her divine Master to provide everything in response to faith and prayer, says: "I was once confronted by an infidel who demanded what proof we have that there is a God, or, rather, that we could know there was a God. I replied, 'If you had made an appeal to a person whom you had never seen, and whose existence you only knew by report, for a thousand pounds, and if he had responded to your appeal by sending you the money by the hand of some friend, would you not know that such a person must be a living reality?'

" 'Yes,' he said, with an incredulous smile, 'I think I should. Hard cash is pretty strong evidence.'

" 'Well,' said I, 'I made an appeal to God for that very sum toward building a house by the side of the sea for the benefit of His servants and He gave me the exact amount I asked for, by the hand of a friend, without my having to appeal to anyone else but Himself. I therefore claim to know that He exists.' The man changed his countenance, and turned away without answering."

Prayer is the greatest force we can wield. It is the greatest talent God has given. He has given it to every Christian. What right have we to leave unappropriated or unapplied the greatest force which God has ordained for the salvation and transformation of men?

MONDAY, MAY 30

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 36-39

HOW FAITHLESS I'VE BEEN

A Christian man had worked for a business concern for more than twenty-five years. One day his employer said to him, "A young man will report for work today. He will be doing the same kind of work you have been doing. I want you to train him for the work." The man thought, "I have been ill and away from work much during the year. I will probably be replaced by this younger man whom I have been asked to train." At the close of the day, he went home, dejected and discouraged. He said to his wife, "Jean, my employer has asked me to train a young man for my line of work. I'm afraid that the young man will get my position. Being the president's nephew, he has strong backing!" "I see," said Jean, "and my husband has only the Lord God of hosts to back him and supply his needs!" "Oh, Jean," exclaimed the husband, "how faithless I have been! I have the unfailing God, and His promises are *sure!*"

Sometimes, when our souls are overwhelmed by sorrow, our prayers lie so deep in our innermost being that we are powerless to articulate them in words. How comforting it is to know that we do not need words to pray prevailingly: "Thou hast heard my voice: hide not thine ear at my breathing" (Lamentations 3:56).

TUESDAY, MAY 31

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 40-44

NO GOOD THING WILL HE WITHHOLD

Steinmetz, the great scientist, never received a fixed salary from his sponsors. At intervals, his backers would give him a book of blank checks. Whatever his needs might be, whether great or small, he needed only to fill in the amount on a check, sign his name thereon, and present it to the bank.

The resources of Heaven are at the disposal of God's dedicated children. God's promises are sure: "No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly" (Psalm 84:11); "Let your requests be made known unto God . . . my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6, 19).

Thou art coming to a King,
Large petitions with thee bring,
For His grace and pow'r are such,
None can ever ask too much.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 45-50

GOD HEARD THE SCRAPING

Years ago there lived in Scotland a Christian widow. Left with several dependent "bairns," she was at length reduced to great straits, and in order to feed and clothe her little household was obliged to practice the strictest economy. Yet withal, her heart was fixed upon the Lord, and both by precept and practice she taught the lesson of trust and confidence to her children.

But there came a day when the purse was flat and the cupboard bare. In the meal-barrel there was only left a handful of flour; and, like the widow of Zarephath, she went to get it to

make a morsel of food to satisfy the craving of the hungry little ones, knowing not where the next would come from. As she bent over the barrel, scraping up the last of the flour, her heart for a moment gave way, and in a paroxysm of doubt the hot tears began to fall, and she felt as one utterly forsaken. Hearing her sobs, her little boy Robbie drew near to comfort. Plucking at her dress till he attracted her attention, he looked up into her face with wonder, and asked, in his quaint Scottish dialect, "Mither, what are ye greetin' [weeping] aboot? Dinna God hear ye scrapin' o' the bottom o' the barrel, Mither?"

In a moment her failing faith reasserted itself. Ah, yes, God did hear. All else might be gone, but He remained, and His Word declared her every need should be supplied.

And so it was; for help was provided from a most unexpected source when the last of what she had was gone.

THURSDAY, JUNE 2

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 51, 52

I ASKED AND RECEIVED

A friend of ours, a deeply religious woman, had experienced more than her share of trouble. She was valiantly trying to support her disabled husband and three small children, but the money she made from washing and ironing and caring for neighbors' children was never enough. My wife and I decided we'd like to help, and purchased a large-sized order of groceries. Wishing to keep our gift anonymous, we placed it on Martha's doorstep at an early hour. Later that day, accompanied by our five-year-old son, Danny, we paid our friend a casual visit. Martha's eyes were still moist. "Isn't the good Lord wonderful!" she beamed. "You know, I just didn't see how we'd make it through the week. The cupboard was nearly bare. Then I remembered the Scripture, 'Ask, and it shall be given you.' So—I asked—" She led us to the kitchen table piled high with jars and boxes and canned goods. Her eyes were like two shining stars. "And I received! It was a present from the Lord!"

We can pray, believe, and receive, or we can pray, doubt, and do without.

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

Scripture Reading—Lamentations 1-5

GOD KNEW

Said Dr. Graham Scroggie at a Keswick Convention: "Only once during those two years did a mealtime arrive when there was nothing in the house to eat, but within half an hour a basket was handed in. I took off the cover and on a dish was a chicken covered with sauce, and sausages all around, and some sweets of one kind and another. After my four-year-old had danced around the basket he slipped away, and I heard him talking to someone. I went in the direction of the voice, and I saw him kneeling at the big arm chair where we knelt together every morning for prayer, and this is what he was saying, 'O God, thank You for the chicken, but I wish it hadn't sauce, I don't like sauce, and thank You specially for the sausages.' The friend who sent that basket did not know anything about our circumstances; but God knew, and that was what mattered."

My prayers seem to be more of an attitude than anything else. I indulge in no lip service, but ask the great God silently, daily, and often many times a day, to permit me to speak to Him. I ask Him to give me wisdom, understanding and bodily strength to do His will. Hence, I am asking and receiving all the time.

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 1-7

REALLY BELIEVING

Some years ago a prominent minister came to Dr. Charles G. Trumbull at a conference and confessed that he was defeated; he did not have peace or joy in his life, nor victory over sin, nor the fruit that he longed to bear. After some moments of conversation that revealed that the man was surrendered in the sense of wanting only God's will in his life, Dr. Trumbull asked, "Do you believe the first verse of the Twenty-third Psalm?" "That is one of my favorite texts. I have preached on it many a time. Of course, I believe it." "What kind of shepherd is He? Does He take care of some of the needs of the sheep, or of all the needs of the sheep?" The minister hesitated; he was keen, and knew where the question was leading, as he answered, "Of course, He takes care of all of them." "Now look out! You are getting yourself in a corner, and it is the most blessed corner you were ever in." That minister kneeled down, and for the first time in his life he really believed "the LORD is my shepherd," meeting all his needs. From that crisis he rose in radiant victory.

Previously he was doing what many Christians are doing—merely saying he believed it.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

For May 29

PAUL IN ROME

Lesson Text: Acts 28:11-23
Memory Verse: Acts 28:28

I. INTRODUCTION

A golfer was once trying to explain to a nongolfing friend some of the finer points of the game. "On the third hole," he said, "is this little pond. It seems that every time I play that hole my ball ends up in the pond."

"When the ball goes into the pond, do you lose it?" asked the nongolfer.

"Yes," replied the golfer. "I usually can't retrieve a ball that lands in the water."

"That could be rather expensive, couldn't it, losing a ball every time you play that hole?"

"Well, yes, I suppose so."

"Do other golfers have the same problem you have on that hole?"

"Oh, I'm sure most of them do."

"Well, then, if that pond causes so much trouble and it is so expensive because everyone keeps losing balls in it, why don't they just fill in the pond and cover it with grass?"

We may smile at the naivete of this nongolfer, but he reflects a philosophy of life shared by many, who feel that if all the risks and hazards could be removed from life, then everything would be perfect. But how limited such a view is, for the hazards challenge men, making them grow. At the same time, the obstacles weed out the weaklings and the halfhearted.

The life of the Apostle Paul gives an excellent example of this. It was through the adversity of a long imprisonment and a dangerous voyage that he finally came to Rome, and then in chains. Yet, because of these circumstances, he was able to witness to many Jews in Rome. It was also during this time that Paul wrote the marvelous letters that we call the prison epistles.

Fill in the ponds, indeed!

A period of two years or more elapsed from the events studied in last week's lesson to the ones in today's lesson. Paul had been rescued from a mob in the temple by the Roman commander. He was then taken from Jerusalem to Caesarea where he had hearings before Felix, Festus, and Agrippa. Paul's appeal for a hearing before Caesar led to his being sent by ship to Rome. On the voyage the ship was caught in a severe storm and was wrecked on the island of Melita. It is here that today's lesson begins.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. For a long time Paul had wanted to go to Rome and had asked the Lord for an opportunity to go there. But little did he know that God would answer his prayer and let him go to Rome as a prisoner. God often answers our prayers in strange ways.

B. It is strange that the Bible does not tell us exactly how the gospel came to Rome. We know that Paul was not the first one to carry it because there were Christians there before he arrived. In silent, unseen ways God spreads His Word. Man may be interested in who gets the credit. God is interested only that the job was done.

C. There are two things that should be noted about Paul and his relationship with the authorities. First, he was always polite. He did not deliberately seek to antagonize them. On the other hand, it should be noted that he never compromised his convictions in order to curry favor with officials.

D. In Rome, even though Paul was allowed to live in a hired house with only one soldier to guard him, he led many souls to Christ. He never made an excuse that he could not work for God because of his awkward circumstances. Have you ever excused yourself by complaining about your circumstances?

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Psychologists tell us that depression is the most common emotional problem affecting the human race. Depression may range in intensity from a fleeting sense of despondency to a deep persistent melancholy that can be self-destructive. Authorities are not at all unanimous about the causes of depression. It may stem in part from external events, but more likely its cause is rooted within a person's psyche or in some chemical imbalance in his system.

When we examine the life of Paul, we see hints that he at times suffered from depression. He spoke on one occasion of his arrival in Corinth "in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling" (1 Corinthians 2:3). On another occasion he wrote, "We were troubled on every side; without were fightings, within were fears. Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus" (2 Corinthians 7:5, 6). On other occasions God gave encouragement to Paul when he was emotionally down.

This suggests that we, too, can find strength and encouragement from God in those trying times of despondency and disappointment. Today's lesson also informs us that we can become instruments of encouragement to our fellow Christians.

Look around and allow yourself to be used of God as an instrument of encouragement.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

IN MEMORIAM

(Continued from Page 6)

grandchildren, and 23 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Minchew pastored 14 churches. He held revivals or preached in 89 other churches.

I had the privilege of observing him many, many times and I have preached for him several times. He was never afraid that another would take his pulpit. He was most happy in a worship service and he was most delighted to share the plan of salvation with whomever he came in contact. He was never in too much of a hurry to talk about Jesus and His love. It did not matter whom he tried to correct when he saw wrong being done. He feasted upon the Word of God. He imparted that Word in a most humble way unto his church and family. He once said to me when he saw wrong being done to the cause of the church (Christ), "SON! that has hurt me so bad that it has taken ten years off my life."

Hilery Minchew was the type of man that would give to you rather than take from you. If you did not have a home, he would give you a place to stay.

We are richer and more blessed by being a part of his life. Thanks, DAD. I'll meet you in HEAVEN.

The Rev. Earl Minchew

CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 10)

person to participate, give a summary from time to time about what has been discussed, help bring out all sides of the subject or problem, and above all else be a good listener.

Fifth, it is important to bring the discussion to a satisfactory conclusion. Summarize or let the group summarize the major insights or most important points discussed. You will need to ask some of the following questions: What has been learned? Did any person have his or her attitude changed because of the discussion? Where do we go from here? What commitments or courses of action should each person or the group take as a result of what was discussed? You see, it is one thing to discuss a subject or problem and quite another to do something about it!

(NEXT ARTICLE: Basic Teacher Skills)

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 7)

them are in constant touch and will be baptized at an appropriate time.

The times are hard, we pray that the Lord may continue to guide us and help us in the task we have ahead.

Dr. Emmanuel M. Lall

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

"What would you do if someone came down the aisle one morning, threw himself on the altar rail, and cried for God to touch his life?"

"You mean people still do that kind of thing?" the guide asked. "Maybe we ought to give it away rather than run the risk. We can't stand such a disturbance. If you only knew how far in debt we are now—paying for this building and all."

When the speaker indicated that the church would do well to keep the altar rail—and moreover to use it—the guide looked at him, blinked, and said hurriedly, "Now let me show you our magnificent rest rooms . . . ."

My, my; what a shame!

MEET THE REV. SOHAN LAL

The Rev. Sohan Lal

The Rev. Sohan Lal is a minister in charge of Rampura circuit with 140 members. The circuit of Rampura village is in the remote corner and has no link with the roads without a walking distance of 6 furlongs. This minister has brought a great impact upon the high-caste Hindus in his village who number about 500 who are willing to embrace Christianity and are under preparation for baptisms in the month of February. This minister has a family consisting of his wife and two small children.

NOTICE

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and its branch bookstores—Smithfield, New Bern, Wilson, Kinston, and Whiteville—will be closed Memorial Day, May 30, 1983. All of the above will open back up at their regular time on Tuesday, May 31.

NOTICE TO MINISTERS

If any minister desires to have an availability printed in *The Free Will Baptist,* he must submit the notice in writing and sign it.

The Editor

Now is a good time to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

The Free Will Baptist Press
Foundation, Inc.
cordially invites you to attend an
Open House
Saturday, June 4, 1983
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

811 North Lee Street
Ayden, North Carolina

Pig Picking at Noon

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

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The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Scott Sowers

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Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

"Whisper a Prayer . . ."

The church has entered into a new era of discontentment. One prominent clergyman said, "I can't tell you the number of people who have left this church **angry** in the last year—the meetings, the criticism, the people who simply could never be satisfied." And folks are not leaving amicably; they are **mad!** Every attempt at reasoning and reconciliation proves futile.

There also exists a growing trend toward apathy and naivete concerning the solutions to such problems. Instead of responding with faith and prayer, churches are adopting ways of the world. In fact, one of two solutions is customary: either churches fire the preacher or they devise more programs.

Christ's church is not a business or corporation; it is a living organism, a body with one Head. Pastors are called, anointed, and ordained; one of their prime responsibilities is to build up and to equip. Getting rid of the preacher at the first sign of trouble is escapism. The real problems should be determined and addressed. Many people today entertain a low view of the pastorate; and it is true that ministers are merely human and not infallible, but the arbitrary firing of a preacher may only divert attention from the real problem—and that problem will continue to cause trouble until it has been solved.

A March 19, 1982, report in *Christianity Today* related a trend toward more clergy firings and forced resignations now than ever before, and this trend is not restricted to one denomination. The average term of service for ministers is now two years; and I have to ask what can really be accomplished in that length of time?

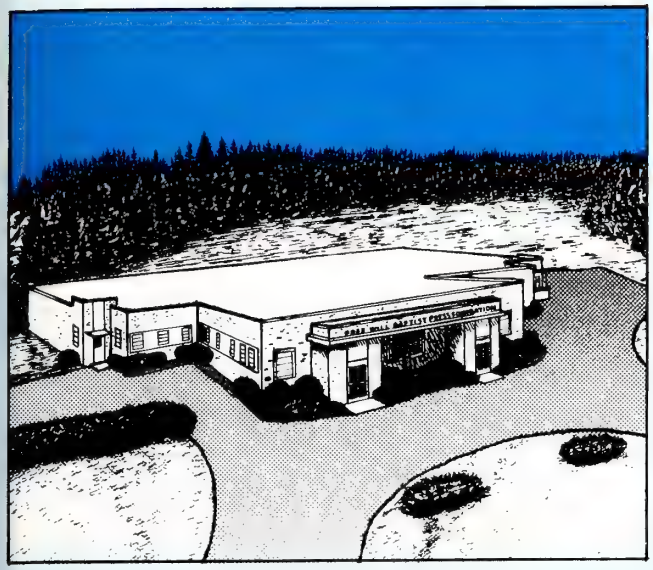
Sure, the minister may be part of the problem, but he cannot be at fault alone—I don't think. Such action is too simple, too immature, too unbalanced, and quite full of real and lasting danger.

The second solution, the adoption of an endless string of new programs, tends to equate vital church life with busyness; and human activity is not a sign of true spirituality. Some are of the persuasion that if they do more, if they sponsor more programs, that money, people, and converts are going to flock to their doors. Yes, this might help; but I believe that something far more fundamental is needed. You see, **our doing** often drives us backwards, for we tend to rely on our own natural strengths.

Think with me. When Jehoshaphat recognized the dilemma his people were facing, he knew that they did not in themselves possess the resources to avoid threatened extinction. The people fasted, sought God's face, and prayed. When the disciples (in the Book of Acts) recognized their lack of personal resources, they fled to God in prayer. The results? The Lord was merciful and the Scriptures tell us that "abundant grace was upon them all." Throughout the course of history, days of prayer and humility have been set aside; and whenever times of devotion were practised, there were gracious outpourings of the Spirit.

We need to set aside days to humble ourselves, confess our sins and examine our hearts; God always honors a contrite

(Continued on Page 23)



Free Will Baptist Press: Pitt County's Oldest Industry

Partial reprint from *The Daily Reflector*, May 22, 1983.

Since the first *Free Will Baptist Advocate* rolled off the press in a W & W Railroad car sitting in the town of Fremont, the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation has come a long way.

Hailed as the oldest industry in Pitt County, even though the foundation did not originate in Pitt County, the company is now located on Lee Street in Ayden.

The early years were not stable for the Foundation, with the paper changing locations and editors frequently. From the boxcar in Fremont, the paper and the original editor, E. R. Ellis, were moved to Toisnot (now Elm City). The *Advocate* continued to be published in the same railroad facility, but underwent a name change to the *Toisnot Transcript.* This name change led to the fledgling paper's failure, "because many were dissatisfied and would not subscribe."

Because of the lack of interest in subscriptions, the publication was suspended sometime during 1877. Consequently, the paper was moved back to Fremont, and the name changed back to the *Advocate,* but the paper again failed in 1879.

During the next few years, the paper was resurrected again, moved to New Bern and the editor changed. The paper was moved again in 1889, to Snow Hill, and the editor was changed as well. Elder J. M. Barfield assumed the position of editor but finding it inconvenient to go from his farm out in the country to Snow Hill, a distance of some miles, he moved the Press to Ormondsville near his country home.

In 1895, the paper finally settled in Ayden when Barfield bought a lot and moved the press as well as his household to a comfortable home near the Press.

The Press was located on the east side of the railroad where it stayed until 1913, when a fire burned the building almost to the ground. The paper swung toward failure for several years after the fire until 1917, when a well-to-do farmer, Alex T. Dawson, erected a new brick building on Pitt Street, behind the old high school, and offered it to the Press.

In 1916, before the move to Pitt Street, a change in the corporation name occurred: the Institution became known as the Free Will Baptist Press and the organization was chartered under the laws of the State of North Carolina as a non-profit corporation. Control of the Institution was placed in the hands of Free Will Baptist conferences, churches and individuals who purchased shares of stock.

Then, in 1965, in keeping with federal guidelines, the corporation was changed to a non-profit membership and the word "foundation" added to the name. There are no stockholders now, only memberships, and only Free Will Baptist conventions, conferences, unions, churches and Free Will Baptist organizations can hold membership in the corporation. The membership meets annually and elects a Board of Directors.

In 1928, the building was moved again to a location on the west side of the railroad tracks in Ayden located near the A. C. L. Depot. The Foundation purchased a different facility in 1942, and moved to its present location on Lee Street in December 1967.

Much of the success of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation is due to the faithful support given us by members of the Original Free Will Baptist Church. Because this is true, we have reserved Saturday, June 4, 1983, as a time for you to be our special guests. You are cordially invited to attend this Open House, the hours of which are 10 a.m.—4 p.m. There will be tours of the Press, special sales, a musical program during the afternoon, and Press employees will be performing their daily jobs, so that you might see the Press "in action." There will be a pig picking at noon.

We are looking forward to seeing you then!

STATE YOUTH CONVENTION

Mount Olive College the Scene of 1983 Convention

The weekend of May 13-15 will long be remembered. "Why?" you ask. Well, it was the 1983 State Youth Convention—the Convention's first weekend meeting—and an extravaganza with a "capital E."

You could sense the excitement and anticipation of what was ahead when everyone gathered for the Friday night variety show. Talented young people from across the state participated, and their "acts" included everything from Gary Holland's ventriloquism to the Pine Level boys'—David Stinckey, Stacy Jones, Johnny Davis—baseball troubles.

Brian Banks and Stephen Prescott from Rock of Zion delighted everyone with a crop-dusting tale. But no one thrilled those in attendance better than those who sang: Kim Garner—Marlboro; Jan Beaman, Pam Martin, Sherry Martin—Spring Branch; Melody Wainwright—Bethany; and Candes and Crista Blanton—May's Chapel. Then again, we can't forget Christy Arthur—Bridgeton; Kelly King—Westside; and Stacey Toler—Bridgeton, who did recitations—and what a splendid job they did. Chuck Branch, a young pianist from Hickory Grove, captured the audience's attention. Before turning the service over to "Ovation," special guests from Winterville, Youth Convention Vice President Phil Sheperd sang an original song and accompanied himself on the guitar. Afterwards, everyone gathered for a camp fire; Don Ribeiro spoke for this special vesper service.

Competitions were held early Saturday morning and young people could be spotted all over the Mount Olive College campus—some were busily reviewing; others were trying to gain last minute "knowledge"; still other young people were on their way to support their friends in the competitions, or to the Mount Olive College or Free Will Baptist Press bookstores.

The annual business session was conducted on Saturday afternoon, and a new state project was adopted at that time: the young people decided to raise money for a portable stage for College Hall.

You could almost feel excitement and tension mount when it was time for the winners of the state competitions to be announced. Winners for the year 1983 are as follows:

Art and Crafts

Cherubs: First Place—Russ Overton, Hickory Chapel
Second Place—Jeff May, Marlboro

AFC: First Place—Kevin Dilday, Hickory Chapel
Second Place—Chris May, Marlboro

YFA: First Place—Debbie Winger, Catalpa
Second Place—Andrea Lynn Gore, Beaverdam

Bible Bowl

AFC: First Place—Beaverdam
Second Place—Shiloh

YFA: First Place—Beaverdam
Second Place—Pine Level

Christian Writing

AFC: First Place—Niki Rasberry, Marlboro
Second Place—Benje Wallace, Snow Hill

YFA: First Place—Joyce Ryall, Arapahoe
Second Place—Anthony Sawyer, Sound Side

Lesson Presentation

AFC: First Place—Hank Reynolds, Sound Side
Second Place—Paula Hargrove, Elm Grove

YFA: First Place—Leon Turnage, Beaufort
Second Place—Nikki Overton, Hickory Chapel

Public Speaking

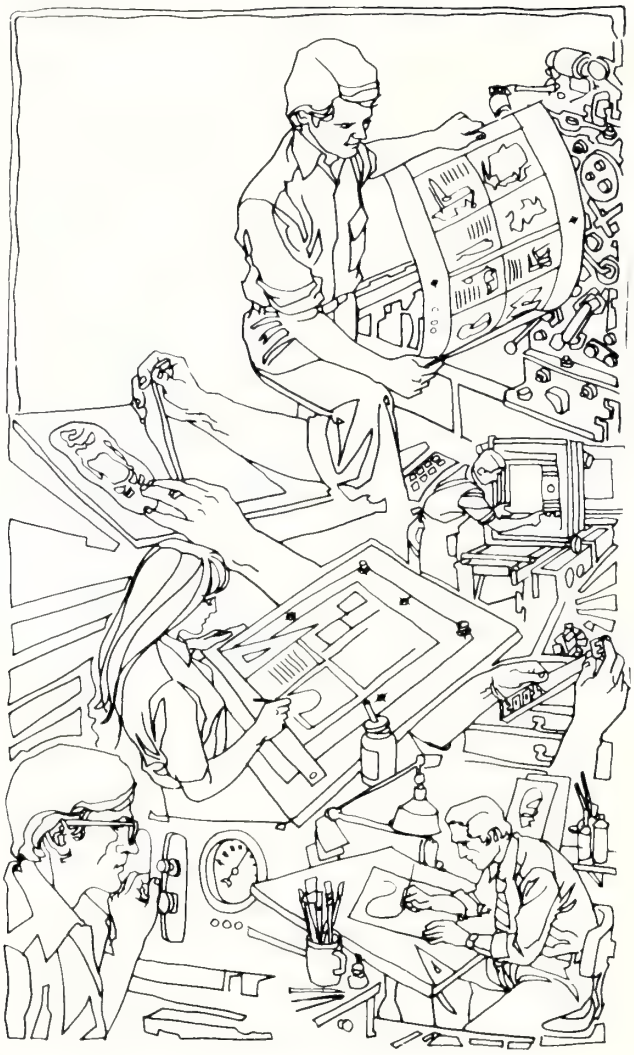
AFC: First Place—Karen Mozingo, Pine Level
Second Place—Mark Godwin, Shady Grove

A special guest for the meeting was Howard Lovett. Howard Lovett concert programs consist of a pleasing variety of traditional hymns, and contemporary Christian music, along with short humorous sketches and personal testimony which provide an interesting and meaningful program to a wide range of tastes, musical interests and age groups. A full orchestral background recorded

especially for Howard is featured in every performance and is tastefully controlled through sophisticated sound equipment. Guitar accompaniment is also used on some numbers. Every song, every spoken word is for the purpose of reaching the lost for Christ and bringing God's children into a closer relationship with Him. And Howard thrilled everyone with all praise being given to God.

Although many groups left Saturday so they could attend their home churches on Sunday morning, a large number of young people and sponsors gathered in Rodgers Chapel Sunday morning for the concluding service. Special music was provided by the State Youth Choir, Roy Lewis, and Charlene Reynolds. After a testimonial time, James Cahoon spoke, challenging all to greater service.

Becky Jo Sumner serves as the State Woman's Auxiliary Youth Chairman. The officers of the Convention are: President, Roy Lewis; Vice President, Phil Sheperd; Secretary, Cynthia Denise Eastwood; Outreach Secretary, Janet Wallace; and Treasurer, Rusty Smith.



Why Wait?

Keeping up with what is happening among Original Free Will Baptists is not always an easy task, but it is one we enjoy. With each and every printing of *The Free Will Baptist,* we try to provide information about meetings; details of work being accomplished by denominational enterprises, institutions, and auxiliaries; as well as inspirational materials which will challenge you to greater service. Every Free Will Baptist family should be receiving *The Free Will Baptist.* Why don't you subscribe today? Fill out the form below and mail it to the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513-0158.

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THE REV. L. B. MANNING HONORED

"There's been a whole lot of honking for such a little calf," the Rev. L. B. Manning said at the conclusion of an appreciation dinner given in his honor on May 12, 1983. The "little calf" of which he was speaking was himself —but "the honking" was quite justified.

The Rev. Leonard Benjamin Manning was born in Winterville, North Carolina, on May 13, 1900. He was ordained into the gospel ministry on February 11, 1924; since that time, Mr. Manning has rendered fifty-nine years of service to Original Free Will Baptists and the people of Eastern North Carolina.

When everyone gathered at Farmville Central High School for this event, you could sense an excitement; but it was evident that the true purpose of the evening was as the Rev. Walter Reynolds, the chairman of the Dinner Steering Committee, stated, "We are here to give glory to God and to honor a man who has served well. We want to express appreciation to him and to provide a lasting tribute."

The Rev. Bruce Jones, pastor of King's Cross Roads Church, near Farmville, where Mr. Manning's church membership has been since 1918, told how Mr. Manning keeps him on his toes; Mr. Manning often visits his home church when he is not supplying for someone. Mr. Jones called him "the D. L. Moody" of our denomination. He also recognized Mrs. Sheryll Eason Wood who read a poem she had written in Mr. Manning's honor.

The Rev. C. L. Patrick, pastor of Bethany Church, told of meeting young Preacher Manning; he stressed Mr. Manning's desire to know as much as he could about the Lord and His work. Mr. Patrick spoke to the fact that Mr. Manning was the most popular evangelist in Eastern North Carolina at one time.

Gifts from friends were received that evening for the L. B. Manning Scholarship Endowment, the total of which was approximately $6,000. The Endowment will consist of contributions made to Mount Olive College in appreciation of the life and services of Mr. Manning. The principal of the fund will be invested with the Church Finance Association and the earnings will be used to provide scholarships for worthy students, preferably those preparing for the ministry. Contributions to the Manning Endowment may be made at any time in any amount by any interested donor. (Gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law.)

Mr. Manning has served the following churches as pastor: Aspen Grove, Bethlehem, Beulaville, Core Creek, Daniels Chapel, Dawson's Grove, Deep Run, Edgewood, Friendship (Greene), Grimsley, Hickory Grove, King's Cross Roads, La Grange, Marlboro, Maury, Otter's Creek, Owens Chapel, Peace, Pearsall Chapel, Piney Grove (Beaufort), Sidney, Smyrna (Beaufort), Sound Side, and Union Chapel (Washington).

He has held the following offices and served in the following capacities: President of North Carolina State Convention, Moderator of Central Conference, Chairman of State Missions Board, Ordaining Council of Central Conference, Board of Directors of Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Board of Directors of Church Finance Association, Inc., held revivals in 77 churches, conducted more than 1,500 funerals, and officiated at 500 weddings.

"I don't ask for anything," Mr. Manning said in conclusion, "just thank Him for all He's done."

(Turn the Page)

Mr. Manning in 1934.

With that, Mr. Manning smiled and headed home. He was eighty-three years old the next day.

The members of the Dinner Steering Committee were: the Rev. Walter Reynolds, chairman; Mr. Marvin Langley; Mr. Harvey Cobb; Mr. Johnny Richard Parker; Mrs. Jane C. Tripp; and Mr. Roscoe Eason.

A TRIBUTE TO THE REV. L. B. MANNING –MAY 12, 1983

As a young farmer in 1924, he heard God's call to preach.
He knew his time had come to learn, to pray, to lead, to teach.
He took his Bible to a cornfield stump in order to prepare.
He practiced presenting the Word of God to every cornstalk there.

His first church was Sound Side, in a place so far away,
That getting there was a challenge itself and took an entire day.
He took the train and then the ferry, then rode in a Model T car.
Down old dirt roads that greeted him with many a bump and a jar.

Times were hard and money was scarce when churches passed the hat.
Sometimes he was paid with chickens or melons, and sometimes less than that.
He did what he could to pay his bills and meet his family's needs.
He showed his faith that God will supply when we follow where He leads.

During times of troubled trials, he was oft tempted to give in,
To stay on the farm with his crops and leave the preaching to other men.
But then he'd remember that boy or girl who might be following in his way.
And know he was needed to help lead that child to a great redemption day.

Through fifty-nine years of service, he pastored twenty churches in all;
From those nearby, to those far away, from the large to the very small.
He traveled to revival meetings, God's message with others to share
And welcomed the many who came to the altars and knelt with them in prayer.

He served as a leader of men, throughout our denomination.
He didn't seek office for power, but to aid in men's salvation.
He accepted the honors of office and proved himself worthy of trust;
He knew that to be a good leader, being a good servant is a must.

He comforted us when we buried our dead and during those times of strife,
And helped us see past the present troubles, to look ahead to eternal life.
He celebrated with us in God-given love between a woman and a man
As he joined them together in marriage, according to God's holy plan.

The year was 1959.

(Left) The Rev. and Mrs. Manning on their wedding day—1918; (top right) 1945; (bottom right) at his 1978 birthday party.

He still loves to hear God's people singing the great songs of faith and love.
He still loves to hear the voices ringing, praising the Father above.
He still loves to tell his simple stories, that even a child can understand,
Yet stories so strong that they can touch the heart of the hardest man.

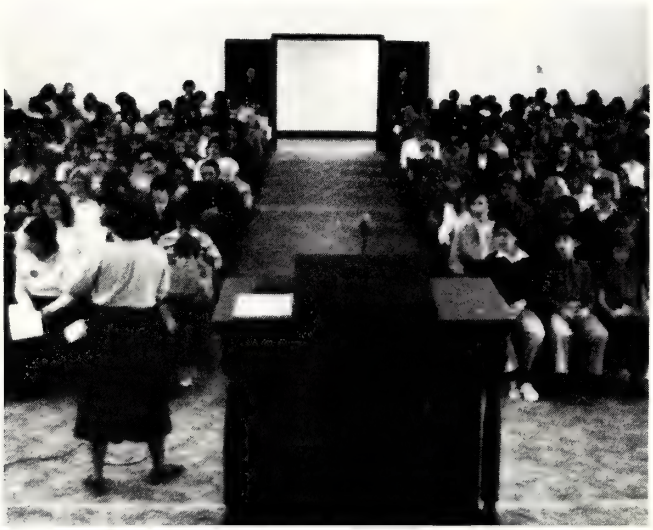
Today we honor this man's life and thank him for the good he's done,
And declare within our human hearts not to forget the battles that he's won.

But human hearts are frail and weak, and man's memory so slight
That the things I've mentioned here will soon completely fade from sight.

But this man's life will bless forever in the lives of those he's known,
And even then when those of us who remember are all dead and gone,
Others will learn to live for God through these honoring gifts we give,
And his beliefs will last forever in the lives these others live.

—Sheryll Eason Wood

EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH CONVENTION MEETS



Diane Riley greeting congregation of youth.

The Eastern District Youth Convention met on Saturday, March 19, 1983, at Christian Chapel Church near Pink Hill. There were approximately 350 people present. Competitions for the different events were held. Winners were as follows: Art and Crafts—Karen Coats, Crista Blanton, Amy Howell, Gray Outlaw, all from May's Chapel; Brad Smith, from Sandy Plain; Sherry Jones, from Arapahoe; Michelle Dixon, Rodney Fillingame, Sheila Fillingame, all from Juniper Chapel; Michael Hinson, from First Church, Kinston; Carl Holland and Mark Eubanks, from Westside. The YFA Bible Bowl Team winners were Rusty Smith, Robin King, Max Stroud, and Michelle Gray, from Christian Chapel. The AFC Bible Bowl Team winners were Michael Dixon, Diana Banks, Tracey Buck, and Mark Prescott, from Rock of Zion. The YFA winner in Christian Writing was Joyce Ryall, from Arapahoe. The AFC winner was Benje Wallace, from Snow Hill. The YFA Lesson Presentation winner was Leon Turnage, from First Church, Beaufort.

Cherub workshop.

Aileen Hawley leading leader workshop.

Those who represented the district in the variety program at the State Youth Convention are Kelly King, from Westside; Stacey Toler and Christy Arthur, from Bridgeton; Candes and Crista Blanton, from May's Chapel; Brian Banks and Steven Prescott, from Rock of Zion. The Eastern District is very proud of these young people.

Special guests for the day "The New Creations."

HEAVEN BOUND TO SING AT VERONA CHURCH

HEAVEN BOUND of Kinston, North Carolina, will present a program of gospel music on Thursday night, June 9, at 7:30, at Verona Church, located 7 miles south of Jacksonville on Highway 17.

HEAVEN BOUND'S song, "Canaanland Is Just in Sight," was voted "1982 Song of the Year" in gospel music.

The pastor, the Rev. Boyd Shook, and the congregation invite you to come and share in this service.

Film Series Scheduled At Core Creek Church

A film series featuring Dr. James C. Dobson, one of the nation's leading psychologists and an expert on family counseling, will be shown at Core Creek Church, Cove City, on seven consecutive Sunday nights, beginning June 5 and continuing through July 17. The services will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Entitled "Focus on the Family," the series has been viewed by over four million individuals since its release two years ago, and over 15,000 churches have presented the seven-part series.

Dobson's most popular presentations were filmed during his family life seminars. The films include: "The Strong-Willed Child," "Shaping the Will Without Breaking the Spirit," "Christian Fathering," "Preparing for Adolescence," and "What Wives Wish Their Husbands Knew About Women."

"This series offers churches and schools one of the nation's most popular authorities on family life in a format that combines information, entertainment, and inspiration," says Francis W. Heatherly, senior vice president of Word, Inc.'s book and educational products division.

The Rev. Bass Mitchell is pastor of Core Creek Church, and he and the congregation cordially invite everyone to join them for this series.

HOME MISSIONS

MISSIONARY COMMISSIONED

The Rev. Bob Harber will be commissioned to serve as a home missionary to the H'mong tribe of Laotian refugees of America on June 11, 1983. The service will be held at Union Grove Church of Fremont at 6:30 p.m.

The H'mongs are a preliterate tribe from the Laotian mountains. Because of their involvement with Americans during the Viet Nam conflict, they were marked for annihilation by the Communists. The United States government managed to resettle about 35,000 H'mongs in America. They live in concentrated communities in Montana, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Colorada, Minnesota, and California.

The H'mongs come from an isolated culture similar to that of American Indians. Few speak English; their own tongue became a written language only a few years ago; and their adaptation to American life has been difficult. About 18% have been converted to Christianity, but their old religious belief of Animism still plays an influential role in their lives.

Mr. Harber will be moving to Santa Anna, California, July 5. The largest concentration of H'mongs is in Southern California. They are a hard-working people and California offers work for them in the agricultural fields.

Mr. Harber's duties will include evangelism, training of H'mong leaders, organizing churches and Sunday schools, training the H'mong people in basic occupational skills and in how to adapt to American life. He will be working under the direction of the North Carolina

(Continued on Page 23)

GENERAL BAPTISTS USE CAMP FACILITIES

This year, for the third time, the General Baptists held their annual Ministers' Conference at Cragmont. They began arriving on Monday, May 16, and the conference began on Tuesday morning. Their guest speaker for the conference was Dr. Dale Moody, professor at Southern Theological Seminary, in Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. Moody is a biblical scholar and lectured on Ephesians. It was a good week for the General Baptists and for us here at Cragmont, as we had a chance to sit in on some of their services.

We also had eleven of our Free Will Baptist ministers to come and fellowship in this conference. We would like to thank the Revs. Gary Bailey, Reb Lancaster, Steve Hargrove, Charles Crisp, W. S. Burns, Bob Harber, Jackie Godwin, and O. B. Jones for their help in serving meals and cleaning up after meals. We are also glad that the Revs. N. B. Barrow, Dan Beaman, and A. B. Bryan were able to attend this conference. And our special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Wilson for their help during this conference.

WORK COMPLETED ON FIELD

The State Youth Convention has had as a project the raising of funds for the construction of a softball field at Cragmont. Over a period of years they have raised $10,000 for the project. During the month of December the work of cutting the timber from the proposed site began. It

was decided that we would cut the wood, saving as much as possible for the fireplace and for camp fires. In March, the landscaping began. The work was hampered due to the very wet weather that we all seem to have experienced this spring. However, the work has been completed and we are just waiting for the grass to get a good stand before we allow play on it.

We would like to thank the youth for the great job they have done. This is a great recreational addition for Cragmont. The young people have worked hard on this project and we hope that many of them will enjoy the rewards of playing on the new field.

A NOTE OF THANKS AND A WORD OF CHALLENGE

Dr. E. M. Lall

Thankfulness denotes three specific feelings of one's heart. The word "thanks" was originally translated from the word 'Charis' in Greek which has three meanings—grace, to rejoice, and the favour.

As we move into the ninth year of our service to God in our most needed country where millions of souls have never heard the name of Jesus or received His message even once, we offer our thanks to God for the victory we found through the Lord Jesus Christ.

We feel indebted to the Free Will Baptists in North Carolina for sharing the burden of the ministry in India. We cannot resist saying that their prayers and support have enabled us in the furtherance of our ministry in India. We are conscious of their doings and sacrificial giving for glory of God.

The Russians send tons of Communist propaganda literature every day into India. On an average 10 tons of Communist literature comes to Plam Airport, Delhi, in India. Radio Moscow broadcasts 130 hours to India with a clear and loud voice. Russians bring in 300,000 kilogrammes of paper a month. Their magazine "Soviet Land" is printed in 13 Indian languages and reaches to the smallest village in India. In 1979 alone it numbered 555,000—eight times the circulation of "Span." USSR brings about 1 film documentary or feature a day into India.

The challenge to proclaim the good news among those who worship 330 gods and goddesses is, therefore, great. The people living in over 600,000 villages, of whom thousands die every day adding up to the eternal fire, are to be saved. How shall they hear without a preacher is the subject matter to be thought of. This is not the time to dream of yesterday's triumphs or to flee from today's challenges. The banner of the Cross must be lifted high. The time to sound the call to service and to voice the note of victory is now.

Dr. Emmanuel M. Lall

PRAYER AND PRAISE

by Dr. E.M. Lall

A part of the month of February and March is set for my visits to all the congregations and schools of our church. As I write this I had visited almost all the congregations and the nine elementary schools and am happy to report that all our people are under His grace. Despite facing adverse situations of life and death during the unusual winter with extreme cold weather they are strong in faith. Except the deaths of two aged and infirm, the Lord kept them safe. There was life in their singing in His praise and much strength in their prayers.

There were 38 newborn children dedicated, 5 new deacons ordained with new assignments at new centers, 1 new teacher appointed to carry additional burden in one of our schools with the help rendered by the local congregation and 38 souls brought to Christ so far. There are many more to be added in His flock after exhausting legal formalities. Praise be to Him.

Thanks be to God for giving me opportunities during this period to know a few more effective places which can be made good centers of our work after some efforts. I shall be looking for this availability in the coming days.

One of our ministers, the Rev. Isa Charan, is under temptation by another church denomination on the instance of better earning. However, my continued challenge to him that God wants him in our field of work and will provide many of our needs soon restrained him. He is under close watch and guidance. We ask for prayers that our people may overcome such temptations.

Prayers are solicited that the "Freedom of Religion Act" in some parts of our country be repealed, which is discriminately applied to persecute Christians and their priests and leads to abuse of powers. The rampant destruction of churches and forceful use of worship places as military camping grounds must be stopped.

ATTENTION CAMP VANDEMERE WOMEN CAMPERS

June 13-17

On Thursday afternoon at 3, the Woman of the Year from each auxiliary will be recognized in a special service. At 8 p.m. the service will be completed with a formal ceremony along with the crowning of Miss Camp Vandemere.

So, hurry! Select your Woman of the Year. Send her name and resume to me. The cost is $40 per week.

On Wednesday afternoon around 4, an added event will take place called "Talent Time." Ladies, bring your costumes, music, poems, skits, recitations, guitars, banjos, mouth organs, drums, etc., and

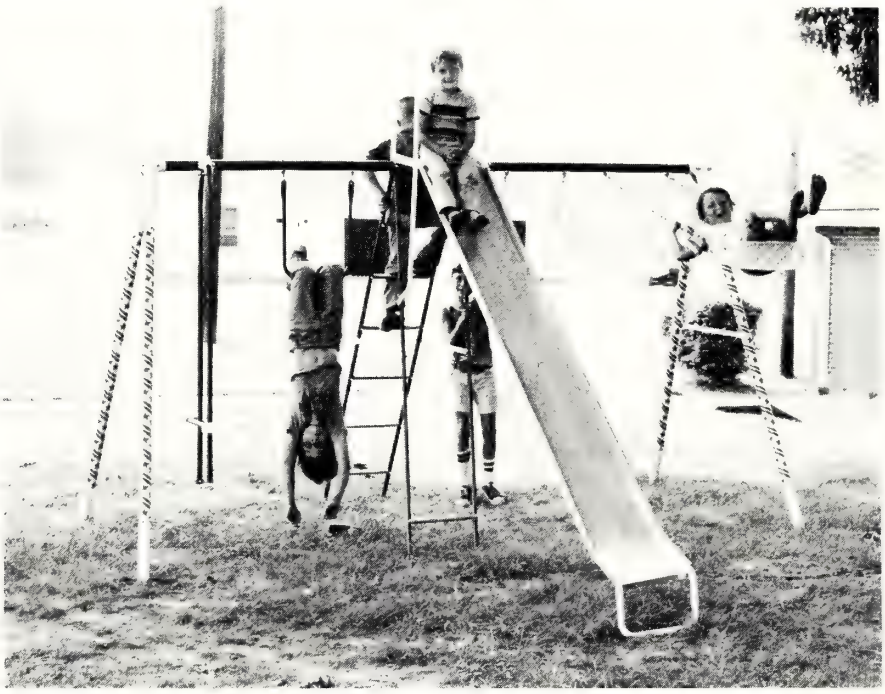
(Continued on Page 23)

CHILDREN ENJOY OUTDOORS

Children enjoying the sand

Playing ball

Group basketball



Children enjoy the swings

After the winter months, spring brings lively activity to the campus. The children spend much of their time outside enjoying the warm weather in all types of play activity.

Our children are provided with swings, see-saws, basketball goals, softball field, volleyball area, tennis court, recreation center, and swimming pool for their outside activity. These facilities contribute to physical development and provide social interaction.

The children are looking forward to getting out of school for the summer. Please remember that the summer months are very difficult months for the Home financially. If you or your church could send an offering, it is much needed. Also, there is no substitute for prayers, please lift our children and their needs daily in prayer. Thank you for sharing and caring.

Bobby R. Taylor
Director of Child Care

CHILD ATTENDS SUMMER CAMP

Summer is approaching fast and Kenneth is eagerly anticipating its arrival! Kenneth, a 16-year-old young man, recently received a scholarship to attend Outward Bound Camp this summer. The camp is in Morganton, North Carolina, and will be from June 11 to July 3.

(Continued on Page 23)

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

A three-week summer session will be held June 13—July 1, at which a wide variety of freshman and sophomore level courses will be offered. This session provides a good opportunity for students who plan to enter **any college** this fall to accelerate their educational progress. It is also an opportunity for students who were enrolled in other colleges last year to make up a course they may have missed. Full information is available from the Admissions Office.

The fall semester will begin August 29 and students who plan to major in religion, business, accounting and certain other professions will be able to complete four years of study at Mount Olive.

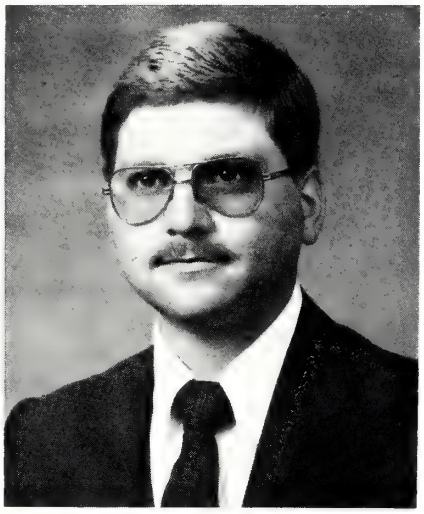
Financial aid adequate to meet the needs of qualified students will be available. All full-time Free Will Baptist students will be eligible for a $1,000 annual tuition grant ($4,000 over a four-year period). In addition, all full-time North Carolina students may qualify for the North Carolina Legislative Tuition Grant which is expected to be a minimum of $650 for 1983-84.

There is still time for students to apply for admission. Application forms and information may be obtained from the Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365 [telephone: (919) 658-2502].

A visit to the campus is encouraged.

RAPER TO SERVE ON DEVELOPMENT STAFF

Stephen L. Raper has been appointed as an Assistant in Development by the College Board of Trustees. Raper graduated this month from



Stephen L. Raper

Campbell University with a B.S. degree in business administration with a concentration in trust management. An alumnus of Mount Olive College, class of '79, he is the son of Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper.

In the Development Office, Raper's primary responsibilities will be in gift support from alumni and in the greater Mount Olive area. Jean Ackiss will continue in her role in development in the dual capacity as secretary to the President and Associate Director of Development for the Annual Church Dinners. The Board is continuing a search for a Vice President of Development who would have overall responsibility for coordinating and developing a comprehensive program of gift support.

CHORAL SOCIETY INVITES NEW MEMBERS

The Free Will Baptist Choral Society invites anyone who is involved in church music to attend the next meeting of the Society to be held on Saturday, June 11, at 9:30 a.m. at the La Grange Church. La Grange Church is located on Cashwell Street between the town of La Grange and the Highway 70 bypass.

The Society's purpose is to foster the use of good music for worship and to provide a program of continuing education for choir directors, organists, pianists, and choir members. The group will perform publicly together for the first time at the 1983 State Convention.

Although church choirs are urged to attend as a group, membership is open to all interested individuals. There are no dues and music will be provided.

Jack Bircher of Cove City is president of the Society, and Carolyn Knox, professor of music at Mount Olive College, is the director.

PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker at Saratoga Church in Wilson County on Sunday, June 5, at 11 a.m. At 9:45 a.m., he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes.

During his visit, President Raper will review plans for Mount Olive's transition to four-year status.

The pastor of Saratoga Church is the Rev. J. C. Yates.

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

Basic Teacher Skills is the title of a new book by Richard E. Rusbuldt. The author is Director of Leader Development for American Baptist Churches of Pennsylvania and Delaware. The book was published by Judson Press in 1981. It is in paperback and costs $4.95.

This book is an excellent introduction to the ministry of teaching for a new as well as a more experienced teacher. If read carefully and the exercises carried out, it will help provide a solid foundation for some of the basic skills every teacher needs. The author explores the roles of the Sunday

(Continued on Page 23)

SUNDAY, JUNE 5

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 8-12

MY COMMON SENSE TELLS ME

"Do you believe John 3:16 and 1 John 1:9?" asked a Christian worker of an apparently sincere seeker for God. "I believe those verses," said the man. "Then you are saved," answered the Christian worker. "No, I am not," the man replied. Turning to the following verse, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon," the Christian worker asked the seeker to read it. Having read the verse, the man said, "I am the wicked man. I am the unrighteous man. I have to forsake sin and my wicked thoughts. I must come back from my own way to God's way. In my heart is a sin. I am hugging it and am not willing to give it up. My own common sense tells me I cannot be saved until I am so penitent that I will utterly forsake it!" "That's right," exclaimed the Christian worker, "and you have preached to me the greatest sermon I have ever heard on repentance!"

Mere sorrow which weeps and sits still is not repentance. Repentance is sorrow converted into action, and a movement toward a new and better life.

MONDAY, JUNE 6

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 13-15

REPENT OR PERISH!

A young minister entered with great zest upon his first pastorate. After some "get acquainted" messages, he got down to real business. He announced a series of foundational, doctrinal messages, the first of the series being, "Except Ye Repent." With much fervor he exhorted his hearers to repent. "Repent or perish," he warned. During the days of the ensuing week, he looked for some tangible results from his sermon. Seeing no change in the attitudes and living of his members, he preached the next Sunday on "Except Ye Repent." This he did for four Sundays in a row. When asked if he had no other sermons to preach, the young pastor said gravely, "Since my first message on repentance, I have been looking for some changes in the attitudes and lives of my people. I have seen none. I know that except they repent, they will perish. Impenitent, cold, calloused hearts are powerless to receive the truths of God's Word except they *first* repent and bring forth fruit meet for repentance." The young pastor was right!

A sense of sin and a heart-rending sorrow for sin are things we seldom encounter nowadays.

Who of us has the grace to acknowledge this fact and head a procession back to the antiquated and seldom-spoken-of altar of sorrow where pew and pulpit will repent of its pride, pretense and departures from God and "the old-time religion"?

TUESDAY, JUNE 7

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 16-18

THE PRIEST WAS AWED

Years ago in Ireland a priest was reading Mass at a funeral. The people were kneeling. Suddenly Gideon Ouseley rode up. Dismounting, he reverently knelt. The people couldn't understand what the priest read—he read in Latin. Ouseley, a Latin scholar, understood. He quietly translated into Irish the portions of the Mass which conveyed Scriptural truth and warning. The priest was awed. The people wept because of sorrow for sin. After the service, Mr. Ouseley pleaded earnestly with the people to get right with God by real repentance and true faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Those who wait to repent until the eleventh hour often die at ten-thirty.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 19-22

I'LL MAKE YOU REPENT

A hot-tempered officer in the army one day struck a common soldier. The soldier whom he struck was a young man who was noted for his courage. He felt the insult deeply, but military discipline forbade that he should return the blows. He could use only words, and he said, "I will make you repent." One day, in the heat of a furious battle engagement, the young soldier saw an officer wounded and separated from his company gallantly striving to force his way through the enemies who surrounded him. The courageous young soldier recognized his former insulter and rushed to his assistance, supporting the wounded man with his arm. Together they fought their way through to their own line. Trembling with emotion the officer grasped the hand of the soldier and stammered out his gratitude. "What a return for an insult so

carelessly given!" The young man pressed his hand in turn and, with a smile, said gently, "I told you that I would make you repent." From that time on they were buddies.

True repentance is never too late, but seldom is late repentance true, godly sorrow for sin.

THURSDAY, JUNE 9

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 23-26

EVANGLISM, NOT REVIVAL

Evangelism, fine as it is, is not revival. After a signally successful meeting, Billy Graham was asked, "Is this revival?" Graham replied, "No. When revival comes, I expect to see two things which we have not seen yet. First, a new sense of the holiness of God on the part of Christians; and second, a new sense of the sinfulness of sin on the part of Christians."

We might add a third and closely related indication of revival—a new working of the Holy Spirit in the local church. Why? For two big reasons, among others; first, because the Word of God calls for it; and second, because the world challenge calls for it.

The answer for the nations is an old-fashioned, Holy Spirit-endued revival in which God can speak once again as by fire!

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 27-30

I'M GOING TO HELL—
I'M GOING TO HEAVEN

Years ago, a Methodist bishop preached on repentance. What he said was true to the Bible. However, an old circuit rider in the audience—felt that the bishop's learned discourse was not sufficiently clear for the audience to get the meaning of true repentance. Respectfully, the old man stood and asked, "Bishop, may I show the people what I believe repentance is?" The bishop said good-naturedly, "Very well, 'Uncle.' Show us what repentance is!" The old man began to walk down the long aisle of the church, saying, "I'm going to Hell! I'm going to Hell! I'm going to Hell!" Then he wheeled around. As he went in the opposite direction, he exclaimed, "I'm going to Heaven! I'm going to Heaven! I'm going to Heaven!"

How literally did the old circuit rider act out the meaning of genuine repentance.

Is it not an about-face? Is it not our forsaking the downward way, and turning our feet onto the upward way? Is it not a change of heart and attitude?

SATURDAY, JUNE 11

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 31-34

I LONGED FOR REST

I've traveled north, I've traveled south,
I've traveled east and west;
I've had my flings in worldly things,
But, oh, I longed for rest!

I've earthly gems, I've jewels rare,
Of these I claimed the best;
I have my gold, I've wealth untold,
But, oh, I longed for rest!

One day I turned me from my sins,
And then my soul was blest;
I gave my all, at Jesus' call,
And, oh, He gave me rest!

Portions were selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

Graduation . . . what an important time in a young person's life. You'll want to give them a gift that will help them throughout their lives. A gift with meaning and value. Because you care, share the most valuable gift of all . . . the Word of God. A Bible is a gift that will last for years to come. A gift that has life's answers. A gift that increases in value. A Bible is a gift of love . . . that will help your grads grow. Give them a Bible.

Available from the Free Will Baptist Press and its branch bookstores—Smithfield, New Bern, Wilson, Kinston, and Whiteville.

Sunday School Lesson

For June 5

AARON: SPOKESMAN AND PRIEST

Lesson Text: Exodus 4:14-16, 27-30; 17:9-13; 28:1-3
Memory Verse: Exodus 4:16

I. INTRODUCTION

Every Christian is called upon to be a spokesman for God. Some will develop the gift of God that is in them and speak from the pulpit. Others will speak in the classroom or in other study groups. Still others will speak with the pen in various ways. But all can and must become vocal for God, not by "harping on religion" all the while, but by sincere sharing with others of the significance and blessing of Christ in their lives. All can seek to assist others as Aaron assisted Moses, and to encourage one another. Just now, in every community, there are many to whom a phone call would bring a note of cheer and encouragement. "Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere." We have thrilled at the singing of this spiritual. Why not experience the thrill that comes through sharing the message?

Each Christian is also a priest, not consecrated by the blood of a ram, as was Aaron, but by the blood of the Son of God (Revelation 1:5, 6; 1 Peter 2:5-9). Christ, our high priest, has entered into the Most Holy Place and has made atonement for our sins. When He did so, He tore aside the veil that would shut us away from God. "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, . . . and having a high priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith." (See Hebrews 10:16-25.)

Free to approach God! Able to intercede before God on behalf of others! Called to have a part in the work of His Kingdom! Surely our opportunities exceed even those of Aaron.

No figure looms larger on the pages of Old Testament history than Moses. He was born of slave parents in Egypt at a time when, by order of the Pharaoh, all Hebrew male infants were to be put to death. Yet by the providence of God his life was spared. Not only so, but he was adopted by Pharaoh's daughter, and thus became the recipient of all of the advantages available to royalty. In Acts 7:22 it is recorded that he was "learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds."

To his credit, it should be noted that Moses was concerned about the plight of his people in bondage. On one occasion, upon seeing an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, he killed the Egyptian and hid his body in the sand. However, the matter became known to Pharaoh, and Moses had to flee for his life.

This had transpired some forty years before the events of our lesson for today. In the meantime, Moses had settled in the land of Midian, had married, and had become a shepherd. The account of the appearing of God to him in a burning bush is well known. Moses was to be God's leader to confront Pharaoh and to demand the release of the Hebrews.

Great man that he was, Moses had a problem. Is it not true that in the life of every great man there is *some* lack? Some weakness? Some need that another might fill? What person is altogether sufficient in and of himself? Moses was not eloquent of speech. "Slow" and "hesitant" would be the way he would describe himself. It seems not to have occurred to him that God could use him the way he was, that God "hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty" (1 Corinthians 1:27). Call it lack of trust in God. Call it timidity. Call it what you will; the problem was very real. Moses, great man of God that he was to be, needed help. Our lesson tells us how and through whom that help came. The lesson ought to challenge each of us to seize opportunities to render assistance to others who are leaders in some good work.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. It seems to be inherent in nature that one does not like to play "second-fiddle" and have the second place all of the time. But it is worth noting that God called Aaron to be second to Moses, and that he seemed to enjoy his position as much as did Moses.

B. It is true that sometimes it takes a bigger man to be the second man that it does to have first place. Do you believe that this is a true statement? Regardless of what your answer is, think it through, and be prepared to defend your answer.

C. Is it possible that Aaron did his job so well as second man that God gave him the task of being a priest, but that Moses did not do his job as well and God would not allow him to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land?

D. It is true that God wants us all to be second men. We are to seek the glory of God in all that we do, and we are to seek the well-being of others. This is being second man in a very real way. It has been said that no one is qualified to be first until he has learned how to be second.

E. Do you think that Moses could have succeeded as the leader of the Israelites without Aaron? If you feel that he could not, then you must admit that in a real way the second man is as important as the first man.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

TO: All Ministers of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

FROM: North Carolina Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association

RE: Pre-Registration for Cragmont Ministers' Conference, July 18-21, 1983

Dear Fellow Ministers:

The Executive Committee wishes to invite you to come be with us at Cragmont Assembly on July 18-21 for our annual Ministers' Conference.

If you plan to attend this conference, please send $10 and the registration form below. (Make checks payable to Cragmont Assembly.) We wish to have your pre-registration by July 11.

****

REGISTRATION FOR MINISTERS' CONFERENCE
July 18-21, 1983

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ AGE _____

Please indicate your building preference:
Main Building _____ Motel _____ Floyd House _____ Dorm _____

Do you have any existing health problems that would prevent you from being on the second floor? Yes _____ No _____

The ground floor of the Main Building will be reserved for those with health problems.

Name those you wish to room with if you stay in the motel or in the Main Building:

_____

Note: All ministers' wives who stay on campus will room in the dorm behind the Dining Hall.

Mail your registration form and $10 deposit to: (by July 11)
Doug Skinner, P.O. Box 117, Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510

Make checks payable to Cragmont Assembly.

Youth Frontier Conference
AFC

AFC
CONFERENCE

July 4-9

Registration
Fee

$10

Balance due
upon boarding
bus

$65

AGES

8
thru
12

Director:

Doug
Skinner

Phone:
249-1484

Hello!

Your AFC Conference staff is excited about our camping week this summer. We have many fun and exciting activities planned that will be both educational and inspirational. We hope you and your friends are even now packing your bags planning for a great week at Cragmont.

The theme for the week will be "Is There Anything I Can Do?" to help you find a mission in life. The dates will be July 4-9. To make sure you are among the 150 campers we will take this year, please mail your application as soon as possible (no later than June 25). Fill out the application below and mail it to me along with a registration fee of $10. Letters of information will be mailed by June 25 explaining what you need to carry to camp and where you will meet the bus. The cost of camp is $70 plus a $5 activity fee, totaling $75. A copy of the group picture will be given to each camper this year at no added cost.

APPLICATION

NAME OF CAMPER _____

ADDRESS _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

AGE _____ BIRTHDAY _____ SEX _____ HEIGHT ____

CHURCH _____

PASTOR'S NAME _____

PASTOR'S ADDRESS _____

Please make checks payable to: **AFC Conference**
Send application along with $10 registration fee to:

Doug Skinner, Director
AFC Conference
P.O. Box 117
Arapahoe, NC 28510

"IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?"

The Free Will Baptist Press

Foundation, Inc.

cordially invites you to attend an

Open House

Saturday, June 4, 1983

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

811 North Lee Street

Ayden, North Carolina

Pig Picking at Noon

Board of Superannuation

REV. WALTER REYNOLDS, Director-Treasurer
P.O. Box 38
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA 28513-0038
Phone (919) 746-4963

June 1, 1983

TO: Co-Workers in Original Free Will Baptist Churches
SUBJECT: "SUPERANNUATION DAY"

Dear Co-Workers;

This is to remind you that the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists designated the third Sunday in June, Father's Day, as "Superannuation Day" in our churches again this convention year. I am sure that you realize the importance of supporting the total program of the convention.

This year has been a significant and an expensive one. The program has been administered from the office in the Headquarters Building at Ayden, North Carolina. In the upgraded life insurance program we now have $430,000 of life insurance in force on those ministers who have qualified. The completion and implementation of the recommendations from Hutchison and Associates, Inc. on our Ministerial Retirement System have been expensive but worth it since we now have a retirement program that is adequate for every one of our ministers.

As you know I have resigned to be effective June 30, 1983, and I would personally appreciate a good contribution from all of our churches for this program on "Superannuation Day." The Superannuation Board has a program that should be supported by our churches and used by them to assist our ministers in their insurance and retirement needs. The incoming Director, the Rev. Donald E. Fader, will be anxious to furnish any of our churches or ministers with information on our program.

For your gift to be in this year's work we need to receive it by June 30, 1983.

Respectfully,

Walter Reynolds

Walter Reynolds

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

heart; He hears prayers; and He pours out His mercy. Perhaps we are too convinced today of our own righteousness and potential, and therefore consider ourselves above such. God forbid.

I "would that God's people would rediscover the use of prayer and humility in their daily lives." May we solemnly examine the covenants we have made with the Lord. Days thus spent cannot help but be profitable—if done with sincerity.

CAMP VANDEMERE

(Continued from Page 13)

let's have some good "ole fashion" fun!

I am so excited! We also plan to have some beautiful crafts to make as well as good music to sing. Miss Rudene Kennedy will be bringing some wonderful spiritual food each evening at the 8 p.m. services.

If you cannot stay the week, come and visit for the day. Be sure and let us know when you are coming! Pray for us.

Margaret Ard
Route 1
Pink Hill, North Carolina 28572
568-4685

CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 15)

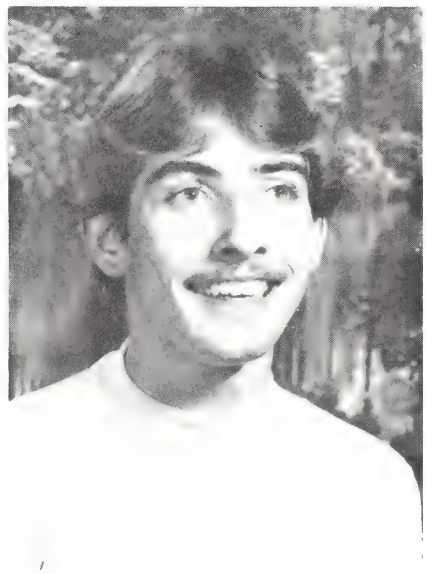
school teacher and gives a detailed step-by-step plan for designing and carrying out a teaching session. He also gives pointers on choosing teaching activities, suggests how to get students more involved in learning, deals with the whole matter of how persons learn, suggests how to go about setting goals and objectives in teaching, and much more. It is really a kind of handbook for Sunday school teachers.

Basic Teacher Skills has five chapters plus a leader's guide at the back. It is written so that an experienced teacher or pastor could use it as a basic training course in teaching for new or even more experienced teachers. It provides five two-hour sessions with training exercises, simulation games, a planning chart, and much more. It also suggests some other ways in which the book can be used for training teachers.

This book is very readable and practical. Every church should provide a copy of it for its teachers. Why not order a copy for each teacher or the new teachers who will be assuming their positions in September? You could order them now and have enough time to go through the five sessions before another church year begins. It can be ordered through our bookstores.

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 14)



Kenneth

Kenneth is very excited about this camp and looks forward to attending. We are very proud of Kenneth, and hope that he will have a fun-filled and rewarding time while at camp!

HOME MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 11)

Original Free Will Baptist Board of Home Missions. The financial support of this work will be shared by Original Free Will Baptists in North Carolina, the H'mong people, and the Home Missions Board of General Baptists, Poplar Bluff, Missouri.

The public is invited to attend this service.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

Kenneth C. Littleton announces that he is desiring fill-in or supply work. He is 24 years old and is from Pine Level. He is a licensed minister. His address is P.O. Box 565, Pine Level, North Carolina 27568; phone, 934-0344.

NOTICE

The Church Finance Association is receiving more applications for loans from our churches than we have funds available. To be able to help our churches build or improve their facilities we need more deposits. If you, your church, or the organization you represent has any funds that can be deposited with Church Finance Association, please do so as soon as possible. Call the Church Finance Association office at the Headquarters Building for more information; phone (919) 746-4963.

Walter Reynolds

JOIN US JUNE 4 AT OUR OPEN HOUSE!

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Open House

Heaven Bound

To Sing During The Afternoon

TRY TO BE WITH US!

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Volume 98 Number 22

June 8, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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Editorial

F. W. Baptist

Meet F. W. Baptist.

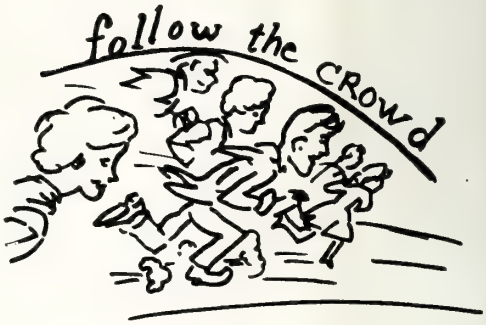
F. W. is a "committed" Christian; he is enthusiastically running the heavenly marathon —a life-time trek down the long and narrow.

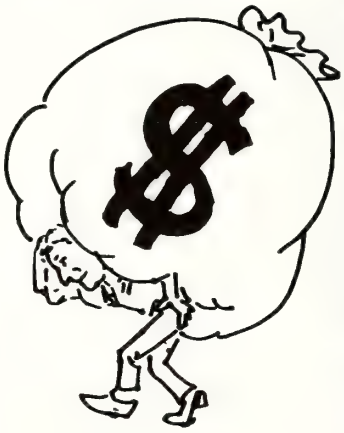
But today he is all out of sorts. Thinking about which road to take at the intersection only confuses him.

Should he follow the crowd? "Someone" suggests that he should.

Then a still small voice reassures him, "F. W., be on your way. Stay on the straight and narrow."

But "Someone" whispers, "F. W., there are many important things in life you are overlooking. You are missing out on life. It is passing you by."





"There's money. You have to have it to survive. And, F. W., this mess about giving to the Lord's work is all 'hogwash!' If you do not give, no one will be bothered by a preacher, literature, or other 'pesty propaganda.' Why, you will not have to go to church anymore—because there will not be one!"

"F. W., listen to me. Your potential is tremendous. Follow me. Do as I say."

Well, F. W. has wandered off the course. And problems hide at every turn.

Finally, F. W. sees the error of his way.

Yes, F. W. is a typical member of the Baptist Family. He starts out with all the fervor of a bolt of lightning, but he lacks roots, cause, dedication. He is not truly committed.

We will take a hard look at commitment next week.

WHO CONTROLS ROCK MUSIC?

by Joyce Ryall

In 1982, our Youth Fellowship began a study of Satan and his tactics. One of the topics we researched during this study was rock music and its effect upon those who listen to it regularly. This study uncovered many things that I think you will find both shocking and disgusting as a Christian.

The first thing we studied was the lyrics of different rock songs. We found that most modern rock songs talk about sex, killing, and drugs. The lyrics to a song by Ozzie Osborne called *Suicide Solution* go like this,

Wine is fine, but whiskey's quicker.
Suicide is slow as liquor.
Take a bottle, drown your sorrows,
Then it floods away tomorrows.
Evil thoughts and evil doings,
Cold, alone, you hang in ruins.
Thought you'd escape the creeper,
You can't escape the master keeper.

Another song, *Hell's Bells,* by AC/DC talks about taking people to Hell. The lyrics go like this,

Nobody putting' up a fight,
I've got my bell, I'm gonna take you to Hell,
I'm gonna get ya', Satan'll get ya'.
I'll give you black sensations up and down your spine,
If you're into evil, you're a friend of mine.

These two are samples of most hard rock and punk rock music being listened to by young people.

The effect that rock music is having on teenagers can first be examined by examining their actions during rock concerts. In the documentary film *The Revival of Evil* people were filmed at a dance rock concert in California. At this rock concert, the dancers tied one-sided razor blades to their pants and did a bach dance called the Pojo, where they jumped up and down and ran into one another cutting themselves. At this concert the lead singer said, "If you like the music, cut yourself." First Kings 18 talks of how the people were worshiping Baal. Verse 28 says, "And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them." This means that when they're worshiping Baal, it was their custom to cut themselves when they cried out to their god. We are seeing this same satanic custom returning with the rise in popularity of punk rock music.

Our youth fellowship also did research on the people who sing these songs. According to *Satan's Cradle* publication, the rock group KISS held a press conference in Hollywood, California. A reporter asked how the group came into existence, and the rock musician said, "Oh, we didn't *come* about, we were ordered about. You see, we are rock singers second. We are ministers first." The reporters asked, "Ministers?" They all said, "Yea," and pulled out a green card that said they were ministers of the S.B.A., the Satanic Brotherhod of America. They are ordained ministers of the Satanic Church! The question came, "What an unusual name you have. Why the name KISS?" They replied, "Well, KISS

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means *blessed* in the Satanic church. And we have been kissed by the devil. Besides, that isn't really what our name is. We tried to get the record company to put K.I.S.S., but they wouldn't do it. So they made it KISS." A reporter asked, "What does KISS mean?" They replied, "It means Kings (priests) in Satan's Service."

Elton John told reporters from this same magazine, "I have never written a song which was not written in witch language. For instance, *Beyond the Yellow Brick Road* is one-hundred percent in witch language. That is why people that listen to these songs don't know the meaning until they get high with drugs and all of a sudden the meaning comes to them. On drugs, the kids are communing with the same evil spirit that is controlling the rock musicians."

Before Jimi Hendrix's death, he admitted that he had visions and communed with spirits. In *Life* magazine Jimi Hendrix was quoted as saying, "Music is spiritual, you can hypnotize people with the music then when you get them at their weakest point, you can preach into their subconscious what you want to say." With this technique in mind, ask yourself what ideas is Satan putting into the minds of those who listen to the perverted lyrics of rock music? Is it any wonder why so many young people are turning to occult groups, instead of Jesus Christ? Satan has found a powerful tool to deceive people into his service.

On many album covers you can find satanic and witchcraft symbols. The satanic lightning bolt is used in Black Sabbath's name, between AC/DC, and on the name KISS. On AC/DC's record *Highway to Hell,* a picture of a singer with horns coming out of his head and holding a pointed tail is displayed on the cover. Willie Hutch's *Mark of the Beast* has 666 on its cover. Revelation 13:18 says, "Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast; for it is the number of a man and his number is six hundred threescore and six." The use of this number is a direct admission by this rock group of their relationship to Satan. On Fleetwood Mac's *Rumors,* there is a crystal ball which is one of the many devices used in witchcraft. Black Sabbath has a lady on their album cover dressed like a witch. The featured song on this album is "We Sold Our Souls for Rock 'n' Roll." The inside cover shows a lady lying in a casket, half-dead, holding a cross in her hands. These symbols clearly indicate that the music is supported by a power other than God. The Bible tells us to stay away from all appearances of evil. With these symbols clearly displayed in this music, I believe Christians should be careful in supporting its use.

One of the most surprising things we discovered during our study was a technique used by some rock groups called backward masking. Backward masking is a technique used to put words on an album backwards. In order to clearly hear the message hidden backwards, one must play the album or tape in reverse. Our group used a tape recorder which would play in reverse to record an album, and then play them reversed. A song by the Beatles called *Revolution Number 9* had a message recorded backwards. Forward the lyrics are "number 9" nine times, afterward you hear a man screaming. When the section of the album is reversed, you hear these words, "Turn me on dead man, Turn me on dead man, Let me out, Let me out." Electric Light Orchestra, better known as E.L.O., has a song called *Eldorado.* Forward the lyrics are, "On a voyage of no return, you'll see." When the song is played in reverse, it says, "He is the nasty one, Christ you're inferenal: Oh, it is said, we're dead men." Led Zepplin has a song called *Stairway to Heaven.* The message hidden on the reverse side says, "Cause I live with Satan, one little child, forty-eight piece backwards, there's power in Satan he'll give you 666, and all he will do won't shake me, no sin, thus saith Satan." Other parts say, "It's my sweet Satan, the one whose path makes me sad, whose power is Satan." With this type message hidden in the song where Satan is glorifed above God, it is very obvious that Satan is using rock music to communicate with those who will become totally involved in the song.

Through this study that our youth fellowship did, I can say as a Christian that I honestly believe that Satan controls rock music. If you don't believe anything I have said, then I want to set a challenge for you. Do your own study on rock musicians and their songs. I think as a Christian, you will be shocked at what you find.

Joyce Ryall

Joyce Ryall is a YFA winner. She lives at Route 2, Box 22, Arapahoe. Her parents are Roger and Ethyll Ryall. She is 17 years old and in the eleventh grade at Pamlico County High School. Joyce attends Arapahoe Church in the Eastern District. Her essay won in the area of Christian writing.

Joyce is also vice president of the YFA in the Arapahoe Church and historian for the Eastern District.

The Heritage as Free Will Baptists

A program on the history of Ayden Seminary-Eureka College, the first educational institution sponsored by Original Free Will Baptists, will be presented at the annual alumni meeting. The meeting will be held at Ayden Church at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 15.

Dr. Michael Pelt, chairman of the Religion Department at Mount Olive College, will present a paper based on his research of these two educational forerunners of Mount Olive College.

A proper understanding of our Church today requires a knowledge of these institutions and the contributions they have made to the leadership and life of Free Will Baptists. We cannot know where we are going if we do not know where we have been.

The meeting is open to all interested persons as well as to alumni and their families. All ministers are encouraged to attend. The cost for lunch will be $4 per person.

Mother-Daughter Banquet Held

On Tuesday night, May 3, the Woman's Auxiliary of Macedonia Church, Ernul, held a Mother-Daughter Banquet in the fellowship hall. The theme was "Hats Off to Moms." The hall was beautifully decorated using hats everywhere.

Upon arrival each officer of the auxiliary was presented a blue carnation corsage tied with silver ribbon. Each lady carried a long stem red rose given to her by the members of the Layman's League.

A delicious meal was enjoyed by everyone. Mrs. Barbara Shackelford, president of the auxiliary, welcomed everyone, and Mrs. Faye Sutton said the blessing.

For the program Mrs. Doris Shackelford gave a short talk on the origin of Mother's Day. Mrs. Vickie Coward of Pollocksville sang a solo, "Mother's Hands."

Besides music, there was a fashion show presented by Mrs. Ola Smith, Miss Janice Sutton, Mrs. Debbie Taylor, Mrs. Sharon Gaskins, and Mrs. Doris Shackelford. They dressed in different costumes of comic fashion which brought thrills and laughter.

Mrs. Sarah Gaskins, program chairman, gave a talk pertaining to Mother's Day. Mrs. Sharon Stewart read a poem entitled, "My Friend Jesus," after which she sang a solo, "Nobody Knows Like Mother."

Mrs. Lynn Hughes presented gifts to the oldest mother, Mrs. Florence Lewis; the mother with the youngest baby, Mrs. Phyllis Lanvermeier; and the mother with the most children, Mrs. Sarah Grace Taylor.

For the first time the auxiliary decided to elect a member of the auxiliary by secret ballot whom they thought worthy of recognition and name her "Woman of the Year for 1983." This year's winner was Mrs. Vivian Dimick. She contributes much to her church and community. She leaves her own needs behind to help others. She was presented a plaque by the president of the auxiliary in appreciation of her accomplishments.

Vivian is the mother of a son, Col. Walter Reynolds Hayle, who is a member of the USMC now stationed in Philadelphia. She is married to Lt. Colonel George Dimick, USMC Ret.

Film Series Scheduled At Core Creek Church

"Focus on the Family" Film Series by James C. Dobson, Ph.D. will be shown at Core Creek Church, Cove City, each Sunday, June 5-July 17. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The titles of the films include: "The Strong-Willed Child," "Shaping the Will Without Breaking the Spirit," "Christian Fathering," "Preparing for Adolescence: The Origins of Self-Doubt"; "Preparing for Adolescence: Peer Pressure and Sexuality"; "What Wives Wish Their Husbands Knew About Women: The Lonely Housewife"; "What Wives Wish Their Husbands Knew About Women: Money, Sex, and Children." Everyone is invited to attend these services.

General Conference Youth to Meet

The General Conference Youth Convention will meet on June 20, 1983, at Sandy Plain Church, Pink Hill. Registration and songtime begin at 7 p.m. All Bible Bowl Teams of the First, Second, and Third Place winners from the North Carolina State Youth Convention, please be there. It is hoped there will be a great fellowship time for the Lord.

General Conference to Meet

The General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will be held at Sandy Plain Church, Pink Hill, on June 20, 21, 1983. The theme will be "More About Jesus." The Scripture will be taken from 2 Timothy 2:15. The scheduled program is as follows:

MONDAY, JUNE 20
7:00 P.M.—Registration
7:30 P.M.—Youth Convention

TUESDAY, JUNE 21
9:30 A.M.—Registration
10:00 A.M.—Hymn, "More About Jesus"
—Devotions, Mrs. Amy Scott
—Welcome, Mrs. Edna McAbee
—Response, Mrs. Wilma Hall
—Special Music, the Rev. Arnold and Jan Price
—Opening of Convention, Secretary

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THANK YOU, FREE WILL BAPTISTS, FOR CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY!

by Doris Rackley Grubbs

Several years ago Cragmont changed my life. Like many teenagers at the age of thirteen, I was uncertain about myself and undecided about the role I would allow "religion" to play in my life. Being torn between the influence of a Christian home and my church on one side, and wanting popularity and acceptance from my peers on the other, I was somewhat confused when I attended the first Youth Frontier Conference in 1963.

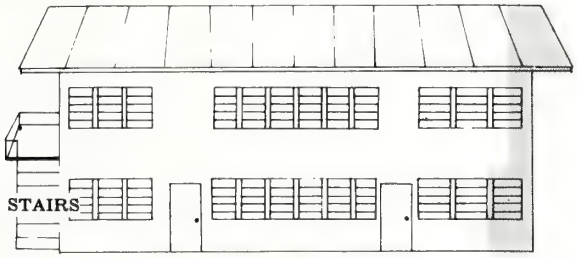
Cragmont provided an atmosphere I had not known before. That beautiful mountaintop hideaway was the perfect place for the Holy Spirit to deal with me. I learned that week that Christianity was **not** a long list of things that I couldn't do! Very understanding and effective counselors showed me that Christianity is alive and vibrant! It is loving, forgiving, and accepting people for what they are. It is also accepting responsibility for our own lives and for our actions. I realized more than ever that week what Jesus had done for me, and I made a firm commitment to allow Him to be the Lord of my life. Each summer after that, Cragmont was a spiritual retreat where I could think and refuel. Since that first summer, I've made several other major decisions at Cragmont.

Even now the beauty and tranquility of Cragmont offer me the perfect setting for reflecting back on my life and for reevaluating my priorities. As a Christian mother, I try to provide my two young children with many things. Among those, most definitely, will be many opportunities to go to Cragmont.

Every summer I see countless young people go to Cragmont and find answers to problems. They find love and support from other Christian teenagers, and they establish life-long friendships. But most importantly, they establish new and better relationships with God. Many enter into full-time Christian service.

I'm so grateful to our forefathers who had a part in making this wise investment in the future of our denomination and to hundreds of others who have worked over the years to make Cragmont what it is today. We, as Free Will Baptists, can be very proud of Cragmont and the outstanding work it is doing among our people. It has certainly made a difference in my life. Thank you, Free Will Baptists, for Cragmont Assembly!

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEW BUILDING ON THE CAMPUS OF P.B.I. PHILIPPINES



FRONT ELEVATION
1840 Sq. Ft.

The shaded area of the building represents funds received to date. We have received $2,167.04, or 144.47 square feet. We need contributions for 1,695.53 more square feet in order to be able to complete this building. Many churches have completed building or remodeling programs and have paid off their debt. I challenge you now to help us meet our building needs in Mexico, India, and the Philippines. Construction on the above building is scheduled for November 1983. We need to hear from you soon. See the scale below and select the number of square feet that you would like to provide and send that information to the Board of Foreign Missions.

1 sq. ft. $ 15	40 sq. ft. $ 600	80 sq. ft. $1,200
10 sq. ft. $150	50 sq. ft. $ 750	90 sq. ft. $1,350
20 sq. ft. $300	60 sq. ft. $ 900	100 sq. ft. $1,500
30 sq. ft. $450	70 sq. ft. $1,050	

We will keep you posted in the *Command* and in *The Free Will Baptist* concerning the progress of contributions until we have funds to cover all 1,840 square feet.

SPECIAL CONCERN: In choosing this as a project, please do not let this affect your regular missions giving. This is a special project and must be treated as such.

BAKER FAMILY RETURN

The Fred Baker family

The Baker Family will return to the Philippines in June. They will leave the Raleigh-Durham Airport on Saturday, June 18, at 3:15 p.m. on Delta Flight 1661. For those wishing to see them off, I would advise you to be at the airport at least one and one-half hours before the flight leaves.

Remember the Bakers in your prayers:

(1) Pray for safety and good health as they travel.

(2) Pray for easy adjustment back in the Philippines.

(3) Pray for Kim, Stevie and Linda as they begin schooling at home later in the year.

(4) Pray for Fred as he assumes his duties at P.B.I. and other ministries.

(5) Pray for their families here at home. They also have a great adjustment to make.

CAMP VANDEMERE

MISSIONS DAY AT CAMP VANDEMERE

Ladies, do you want to get away from the press of a demanding, needy, and explosive world to be revived and refreshed? The retreat atmosphere is yours to experience as you reverently stand on the banks of the Bay River or sit under the canopy of pine trees. Come, join us for the Ladies Conference at Camp Vandemere, June 13-17.

If you can't attend for the week, a special day has been planned just for you. Thursday, June 16, has been designated "Missions Day." This is an important day because this can be counted as a study course for your Woman's Auxiliary.

We have invited the Rev. and Mrs. Charles Crisp, Home Missions Director; the Rev. and Mrs. Harold Jones, Foreign Missions Director; Willem and Lydia Van der Plas, missionary candidates to India, and Home Mission pastors.

Our schedule for the day is as follows:

9:00- 9:20—Devotion, Lydia Van der Plas
9:20 10:30—Get Acquainted
10:30-11:00—Sing-a-long

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MAY 21, A SPECIAL EVENT

Founder's Day was not the only special event on May 21, it was also, the opening of the pool for the summer. The sun was warm and the water was cool, but no one seemed to mind.

The day ended with a hot dog dinner in the central kitchen.

Bobby R. Taylor
Director of Child Care

SPRING RECITAL

Donna, Crystal, Sherry, and Ronnie

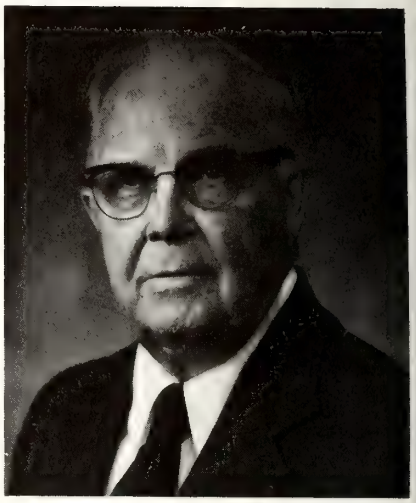
May 24 was a special date for Donna, Crystal, Sherry, and Ronnie! These four children participated in the Spring Music Recital held at Middlesex Elementary School.

These children had looked forward to this date for some time. Throughout the year, they practiced diligently so they could show others their fine musical ability. Their efforts were displayed when they performed their selections at the recital.

We are very proud of these children and their fine musical talent.

FOUNDER'S DAY

On May 21, visitors, residents shared in worship, fellowship, and a fine meal.



The Rev. James A. Evans

When one thinks of Founder's Day we usually think of the past. But the Rev. James A. Evans, guest speaker for the occasion, delivered in his address a look at the past, present, and the future. He was Superintendent of the Home through the 40's and challenged those in attendance with his timely message.

A children's trio from the Home rendered special music during the service. We want to thank Sherry, Justin, and Shayne.

Sherry, Justin and Shayne

We look forward to having them sing again real soon.

After lunch, tours of the campus were given by Mrs. Mary Mitchell. Friends from Core Point Chapel Church and their pastor, the Rev. Timothy Webber, shared in the activities of the day.

Friends from Core Point Chapel Church

The children and the staff wish to express their appreciation to all the visitors for their attendance, prayers and support in celebrating the Sixty-third Founder's Day Celebration.

Bobby R. Taylor
Director of Child Care

STATE SPECIAL OLYMPIC WINNER

Donna

The weekend of May 20, 21, and 22 was a special weekend for Donna. Donna traveled to Greensboro, North Carolina, and participated in the State Special Olympics. Her participation in the Olympic games resulted in winning a Gold Medal in the event of the standing long jump and a Bronze Medal in the event of the softball throw.

Donna is very excited about her awards! We are very proud of Donna and her accomplishments and would like to say, "Congratulations, Donna!"

Endowment of the Week

ESTHER BRYANT PENNINGTON SCHOLARHSIP ENDOWMENT

The Esther Bryant Pennington Endowment at Mount Olive College was established by the family and friends of Mrs. Pennington (March 14, 1906—October 2, 1982). She was a teacher by profession and a faithful member of Little Rock Church, Lucama, North Carolina.

Upon her death, her family suggested that in lieu of flowers, friends consider memorial gifts to Little Rock Church. As a result of gifts received and a contribution by her daughter, Esther P. Barnes, and her husband, Milton Barnes, the funds were transferred to Mount Olive College for the Pennington Endowment.

The principal of the Endowment is invested according to fiduciary policies established by the College Board of Trustees. The income will be used to provide scholarships at Mount Olive College for students from Little Rock Church. The principal will always remain as a permanent endowment with the provision that additional contributions may be added to it at any time by any person who wishes to make a gift in memory of Mrs. Pennington.

Mrs. Pennington

The Endowment is a living memorial to Mrs. Pennington for a life of Christian service. She was born in Wilson County, educated in Lucama School, Atlantic Christian College and earned a Master's Degree in Education at East Carolina University. She was married to Leonard Pennington who died in 1945. Her daughter Esther

The late Esther Bryant Pennington and her pastor, the Rev. De Wayne Eakes of Little Rock Church.

Barnes lives at Lucama; her son, Col. Dave Pennington, USAF, died in 1979.

She taught in the Wilson, Johnston, Lenoir, and Cumberland school systems before her retirement in 1967. She gave hundreds of hours as a Gray Lady Volunteer at Wilson Memorial Hospital and was presented the "Clara Barton Award for Volunteerism" by the American Red Cross. Along with friends she traveled extensively in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Europe.

A former President of the Little Rock Woman's Auxiliary she held many offices in her circle and was a teacher for the Adult Sunday School Class. Her pastor, the Rev. De Wayne Eakes, stated that he often referred to her as his "assistant pastor" due to her faithfulness in visiting the sick of the church and community. She was always willing to give her time and support to the Free Will Baptist denominational programs.

On her 76th birthday she was given a Life Membership award by her auxiliary and at that time her testimony was, "I've come this far by the grace of God and I know He will carry me the rest of the way."

(Turn the Page)

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE 1983 MINISTERS' INSTITUTE

It's time to make plans again to attend the 1983 Ministers' Institute at Mount Olive College on Monday and Tuesday, August 8, 9. This scene from last year's Institute includes (from left to right) the Rev. Frank Harrison, director of church relations at MOC, the Rev. A. Graham Lane of New Bethlehem Church (Eastern Conference), and the Rev. Grady Tucker of White Hill Church (Eastern Conference).

Monday's program will be "Ministerial Stress and Burnout" and Tuesday's presentation will be "The Minister's Health, Growth, and Development."

REFRESHER COURSE IN COMPOSITION TO BE OFFERED

A refresher/preparatory course in English composition is being offered at Mount Olive College during summer school from June 13—July 1. The course is designed especially for students who will be entering college this fall as freshmen.

The focus of the course will be on developing effective writing skills which are essential to a successful academic career at any institution. Each student will receive individual attention and assistance in developing related skills in spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

Students who plan to enter Mount Olive in the fall may earn three hours credit for English Composition 101 by successfully completing this course.

Dr. Jane Johnson, chairman of the division of social sciences and communications, will be the instructor. Tuition is $150. Room and board for students who wish to remain in the dormitories for the three-week session is an additional $150.

For more information, call the Admissions Office at (919) 658-2502. Registration can be completed on June 13 at 8 a.m.

Other courses in the area of business, English, history, mathematics, physical education, science, and religion will also be available subject to enrollment.

MOC PRESIDENT TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker at Aspen Grove Church in Wilson County, on Sunday, June 12, at 11 a.m. At 9:45 a.m. he will also teach a combined session of the adult Sunday school classes.

During his visit, President Raper will review plans for Mount Olive's transition to four-year status.

The pastor of Aspen Grove is the Rev. Edward Thornton.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, June 11—The Free Will Baptist Choral Society will meet at the La Grange Church at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, June 15—The Ayden Seminary-Eureka College Alumni Meeting will be at Ayden Church, beginning at 10 a.m.

Monday-Friday, June 27—July 1—Mount Olive College will hold its first annual Basketball School. Cost will be $50 for day participants and $100 for residents. Application forms and full information are available from the Athletic Department. Phone: (919) 658-2502.

THANKS, HOLLY SPRINGS

The Children's Home would like to publically thank the membership of Holly Springs Church of the Eastern Conference, Newport, North Carolina for their recent generous contribution of $3,707.63 to the Home. These funds were raised at the annual barbecue supper that Holly Springs has for the Home each year.

We realize that a lot of hard work went into planning and executing this event and we sincerely thank everyone who participated. May God bless you for your hard work and dedication to this ministry.

Staff and Children of the Home

ATTENTION AUXILIARY MEMBERS

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Conference will meet at Camp Vandemere, June 13-17. Auxiliaries, please have your Woman of the Year present. If she can't stay the entire week, be there Thursday for the evening service. Mrs. Margaret Ard has plans for you.

Ladies, all of you are invited to join us for spiritual refreshment, rest and relaxation, so plan to meet us at Camp Vandemere, on the beautiful Bay River in Pamlico County and enjoy the fellowship with Christian sisters in Christ.

Rena Kirk
President Eastern District

For June 12

JETHRO: WISE ADVISER

Lesson Text: Exodus 18:13-24
Memory Verse: Exodus 18:18

"Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety" (Proverbs 11:14). Thus wrote Solomon, a man wise enough to perceive that no mortal being is all-wise or all-knowing. No one is that wise or knowledgeable that he cannot benefit from wise counsel. Consequently, "Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning" (9:9). On the other hand, "He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul" (15:32).

These truths are rather self-evident. So rich and so varied are life's experiences, so vast is the field of knowledge, that no one can cultivate more than the tiniest part of the whole. For this reason we may thank God for the power of speech and for the written word through which we can share with one another. So important is wise counsel to our well-being that persons are trained in particular skills (such as medicine, economics, personal counseling, biblical studies), and we seek them out for the help they can be to us. Indeed, wise counseling can be a great blessing. At the same time, it takes wisdom to either give or receive advice.

Our lesson today is the second of four on persons of the Old Testament who served in supportive roles. Last week we saw how the work of Moses was implemented and supported by his brother Aaron. Today Moses is again helped, this time in a different way. The help is in the nature of wise counsel, and the helper is his father-in-law, Jethro. In this lesson we will want to note the importance of the role of Jethro, consider the response of Moses, and ask ourselves how we might fill either the role of adviser or of advisee.

Jethro, known also as Reuel, was the priest of Midian. The Midianites were a people distantly related to the Israelites, since they were descended from Abraham through Keturah, Abraham's wife, after the death of Sarah. Whether or not this Midianite priest served the Lord Jehovah is debated by scholars. In any case, it was to the land of Midian that Moses had fled after killing the Egyptian taskmaster, "and he sat down by a well" (Exodus 2:15).

When the daughters of Jethro came to this same well with their father's sheep, Moses assisted them in watering their flock, defending them from other shepherds who would drive them away. Stranger though he was, Jethro extended the hospitality of his abode, "and Moses was content to dwell with the man" (2:21), becoming the keeper of his flock. Zipporah, the daughter of his host, became the wife of Moses, and two sons were born to them.

Later, the time came when Moses would return to Egypt as God's leader to bring out the people of Israel. His father-in-law, with understanding, gave his blessing with the words, "Go in peace" (4:18). In all these things Jethro showed himself to be a discerning person.

Moses returned to Egypt, and, by the power of God, led Israel out of that land of bondage to Sinai. Let it be remembered that it was a nation of slaves that Moses brought out of bondage. The Hebrews had been kept in subjection for generations. Their taskmasters had assigned to each his work, and little freedom had been known by any of them. Having been dependent upon their masters for almost everything, they were now almost as helplessly dependent upon Moses. And Moses bore the responsibility as best he could, but it was not easy.

In addition to this, there were the rigors of the wilderness wanderings. For three days after the crossing of the Red Sea the people journeyed without finding water, and then came to a spring that was bitter. But God provided a means by which Moses could purify the water. When the people complained that they would surely starve, God provided quails for food in the evening and manna in the morning. And then there was the attack by the Amalekites. Through it all, however, the care and protection of God were evident, and finally the people arrived in the region of Sinai. Here Moses was reunited with his wife and two sons when Jethro brought them out to meet them.

When Moses told his father-in-law all that God had done in freeing Israel from bondage and in bringing the people through many trials, Jethro readily accepted such evidence as the basis of a strong faith. "Now I know," he said, "that the LORD is greater than all gods" (Exodus 18:11). Then he offered a burnt offering and sacrifices to God (v. 12). In this he showed himself to be spiritually perceptive.

From the above it is evident that Jethro was the kind of a person in whom one might have confidence. He was friendly, appreciative, thoughtful, understanding, and spiritually perceptive. These qualities would combine to help him to be a rapport between the counselor and the counselee. This had developed between Jethro and Moses over the years.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 35-38

AMERICANITIS

Because of her late arrival at a railway station, a lady had but five minutes to make connection with an outgoing train. As she ran toward the train, a Pullman car porter waved her to slow down and said, "Lady, you better take it easy or you are going to come down with *Americanitis!*" "What's that?" gasped the lady. "I can't tell you what it is, but I can tell you how it acts: Americanitis is running up an escalator!"

So many of us are getting nowhere fast! Like ants disturbed on an anthill, we scurry hither, thither and yon. Taut nerves are snapping, and overwrought minds are cracking, with the result that there are more mental patients in hospitals than any other kind of patients!

"Be still and know that I am God!"

In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength (Isaiah 30:15).

MONDAY, JUNE 13

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 39-41

A MULTIMILLIONAIRE'S QUESTION

A minister said in his message, "How powerless are fountains of earthly origin to slake the soul's thirst, and bring rest and contentment. Solomon tried works, wisdom, wine, women and wealth. Of all of them he said: "Vanity of vanities; all is vanity" (Ecclesiastes 1:2). Augustine said that God has made our hearts for Himself, and that they are restless until they rest in Him."

In the audience sat Titus Salt, a multimillionaire, who had invented the way to weave the wool of the alpaca into cloth. He was sad and dejected. At the close of the service he said to the minister, "I agree with what you said about the futility of seeking soul rest and satisfaction by pursuing passing pleasures and by accumulating wealth. My life has been saddened by these things. I yearn for spiritual rest and satisfaction!"

O Lord, I seek a holy rest,
A vict'ry over sin:
I seek that Thou alone shouldst reign,
O'er all without, within.

TUESDAY, JUNE 14

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 42-45

WHEN YOU ARE TIRED

A mother was teaching her children the meaning of the Twenty-third Psalm. She told them how the good shepherd cares for the little lambs. Impetuous Mamie, eager to speak her one thought, said, "Yes, and he drives away the lions and the bears." "Yes," said thoughtful Tiny, "and he carries them uphill when they are tired." The words went to the mother's heart with a strength and sweetness of which the little speaker did not dream, and often after thrilled her tired heart like the echo of an angel's song. It was in fulfillment of this promise that Jesus stretched out His hands to the weary laborers, returning from their toil at evening time, and called, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

My Saviour, Thou hast offered rest:
Oh, give it then, to me;
The rest of ceasing from myself,
To find my all in Thee.

WEDNESAY, JUNE 15

Scripture Reading—Ezekiel 46-48

THE POWER OF THIRST

Two thirsty elephants broke through barriers to reach a water hole in Colombo, Ceylon. They demolished the reinforced concrete and steel fences to slake their thirst. The spiritual thirst of man for God should drive him as irresistibly to the One who said: "If any man thirst let him come unto me and drink." God made man to hunger and thirst after Himself and his soul will remain restless until he finds rest in God through Christ.

I thirst for springs of heavenly life,
And here all day they rise;
I seek the treasurer of Thy love,
And close at hand it lies!

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

Scripture Reading—Daniel 1-3

THE QUIET MIND

I have a treasure which I prize,
Its like I cannot find;
There's nothing like it on the earth,
'Tis this—*a quiet mind.*

But 'tis not that I'm stupified,
Or senseless, dull or blind;
'Tis God's own peace within my heart
That forms my *quiet mind.*

I found this treasure at the Cross;
And there, to every kind
Of weary, heavy-ladened soul,
Christ gives *a quiet mind.*

My Saviour's death and risen life
To give it were designed;
His love's the never-failing spring
Of this, my *quiet mind.*

The love of God within my breast,
My heart to Him doth bind;
This is the peace of Heaven on earth—
This is my quiet mind.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

Scripture Reading—Daniel 4, 5

A DEACON GOT RIGHT WITH GOD

Every Sunday a certain deacon ushered in the church. When the Lord's Supper was observed, he assisted too. There was something in his life, however, which caused him at times to have a troubled conscience. Others also were troubled over his inconsistency. The deacon owned a hotel building on the main street of Salisbury, North Carolina. He rented part of it for a saloon. God deeply convicted him of the wrong of what he was doing. He knew that he could not get right with God until he had evicted the saloon. This he did. Then he computed the rent which he had received from the saloon and gave it to Dr. R. E. Neighbour, instructing him to use it to help the impoverished families of the former patrons of the saloon!

God requireth that which is past (Ecclesiastes 3:15).

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

Scripture Reading—Daniel 6-8

THE LOVE THAT RIGHTS THE WRONG!

One of God's servants had preached a searching sermon on forgiveness. He urged God's children to get right with God and with one another. He emphasized the fact that God's children cannot be right with God and at the same time wrong with one another, if it is within their power to right the wrong. He quoted the verse which says, "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men" (Romans 12:18). "Oh, that more of us had the 'love which rights the wrong!' Then more hearts would be 'filled with cheer and song!'" At the close of the service, a lady, who had harbored hatred for the pastor in her heart, openly confessed to him the wickedness and wretchedness of her heart, saying, "Your reference to the 'love that rights the wrong,' went like an arrow to my heart. Do forgive me for the wrong I have done you as I feel that God has forgiven me."

O God of light, upon my path
Let truth unhindered shine,
That I may walk in confidence,
My will submerged in Thine.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. ROSE M. RAPER

Mrs. Rose Mallard Raper

Mrs. Rose Mallard Raper of Mount Olive was honored with a Life Membership Award by the North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary Convention at its annual meeting May 12, at Cathedral Church, Durham. Mrs. C. L. Patrick of Winterville presented the award with the following tribute.

In Ephesians 4:11, 12, we find these words: "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." (Also read Proverbs 31:10-31.)

(Turn the Page)

The lady whom we honor today needs no introduction to this Auxiliary Convention, for she has been very faithful to our Lord through many labors in Auxiliary work, not only on the local level but also on the district and state level. She has served the Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention as secretary. In 1964 she was honored with a Life Award from the Eastern District Auxiliary Convention.

She is a devoted wife, the mother of four adorable daughters and two very fine sons. She is also a grandmother. She has always supported her husband in his high calling. As one of her coworkers expressed it: "I have never heard her say no, or I don't have time to anyone when asked to do some certain task. She is never too busy, yet she lives a very full life."

She has been a leader for both Girl and Boy Scouts at both the local and district levels. She is the mother of an Eagle Scout who also earned the God and Country Award and the Order of the Arrow Honors. In 1981 she was presented the Good Shepherd Cross and Staff at the State Convention by Mr. Charlie Glanville, Southeast Chairman of the Association of Baptists for Scouting. Her pastor, the Rev. Frank Harrison, says, "She is loyal and faithful to her Lord in and out of church. She is one of the best Good Shepherd types in our nation." We are so blessed to have a Christian scouter to be so recognized.

In 1972 she was elected Secretary of this State Woman's Auxiliary Convention and has served us very efficiently and is most appreciated. It is with much pleasure and great honor that I present this special Honor Award in behalf of the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention to, as her husband, (President W. Burkette Raper of Mount Olive College) so affectionately calls her, "Miss Rose," Mrs. Rose Raper.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 5)

10:30 A.M.—Recognition of Officers, Delegates, Ministers and Visitors
—Hymn
—President's Remarks, Mrs. Rachel Duncan
—Business Session
—Minutes
—Appointment of Committees
—Morning Worship
11:15 A.M.—Offering and Prayer
—Hymn
—Special Music
—Message, Mrs. Rachel Lampley
12:15 P.M. —Lunch

Afternoon Session

1:45 P.M.—Hymn, "Learning to Lean"
—Devotion and Prayer, Mrs. Irene Morris
—Special Music
—Business Session
—Hymn and Testimony Time

Song Director, Mrs. Rachel Lampley
Pianist, Mrs. Carolyn Bennett

CAMP VANDEMERE

(Continued from Page 7)

—Learning Songs from Different Countries
11:00 —Skit, "Lovest Thou Me More Than These"
—Tape from Barnards, Missionaries to the Philippines
—Special Music
—Mission Service Led by the Rev. Charles Crisp, Home Missions Director
12:00 —Lunch
1:00- 1:45—Rest
2:00- 3:00—"Life on the Field," Mrs. Sandra Jones, Former Missionary to Philippines
—"What's Involved in Starting a Mission Church," the Rev. Alton Howard, Catalpa Mission
3:00 —Woman of the Year, Reading of Biographies
3:30 —International Delicacies Prepared for Those Present
4:00 —Discussion Groups Formed to Answer Questions Concerning Both Home and Foreign Missions Programs
6:00 —Seafood Dinner
7:30 —Crowning of Woman of the Year
8:00 —Special Music
—Rudene Kennedy will be speaking on the topic of the Holy Spirit

If your auxiliary is interested in attending, we will need to know by June 11. You can contact Mrs. Happy Taylor, Route 1, Deep Run, NC 28525; or phone 523-9644. Cost of each meal will be $2.

Deborah H. King
Eastern District Missions Chairman

COMING EVENTS

June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month

June 11—The Free Will Baptist Choral Society will meet at La Grange Church, 9:30 a.m.

June 13-18—General Youth Conference, the Rev. Harry Grubbs, director; Cragmont

June 13-17—Woman's Auxiliary Conference at Camp Vandemere

June 15—The Ayden Seminary-Eureka College Alumni Meeting will be at Ayden Church, 10 a.m.

June 19—Superannuation Day in Local Churches

June 19—Father's Day

June 20-25—Christian Cadet Conference, the Rev. Bobby Taylor, director; Cragmont

June 27—July 2—Youth Frontier Conference (YFA), Cragmont; the Rev. Scott Sowers, director

June 27—July 1—Mount Olive College will hold its first annual Basketball School. Cost will be $50 for day participants and $100 for residents.

Youth Frontier Conference/YFA Week at Cragmont still has a few openings. Those interesting in attending should contact the director, Scott Sowers, by writing to him at Route 1, Box 106-B, Farmvile, NC 27828; or by calling (919) 753-4260. Do so soon!

REPORT BLANK TO THE

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Name of Church or Organization _____

Address _____

Pastor _____

Address _____

Clerk _____

Address _____

Delegate(s) to the General Conference _____

_____

_____

_____

(REPRESENTATION: Churches—one (1) delegate for each one hundred (100) members or fraction thereof. Denominational organizations—one (1) delegate for each two hundred (200) members or fraction thereof).

Donations (registration fees, etc.) sent to the General Conference: $_____

(Please note that registration fees are $10 per delegate and $3 per minister)

Please furnish the following information about your church:

ORGANIZATION	NO. ON ROLL	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE
Church	_____	_____
Sunday School	_____	_____
Free Will Baptist Leagues	_____	_____
Layman's League	_____	_____
Woman's Auxiliary	_____	_____
Cherub Auxiliary	_____	_____
Ambassadors for Christ	_____	_____
Youth Fellowship Auxiliary	_____	_____
Others:		
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Please list below the Free Will Baptist Denominational Enterprises which your church supports:

_____

_____

_____

_____

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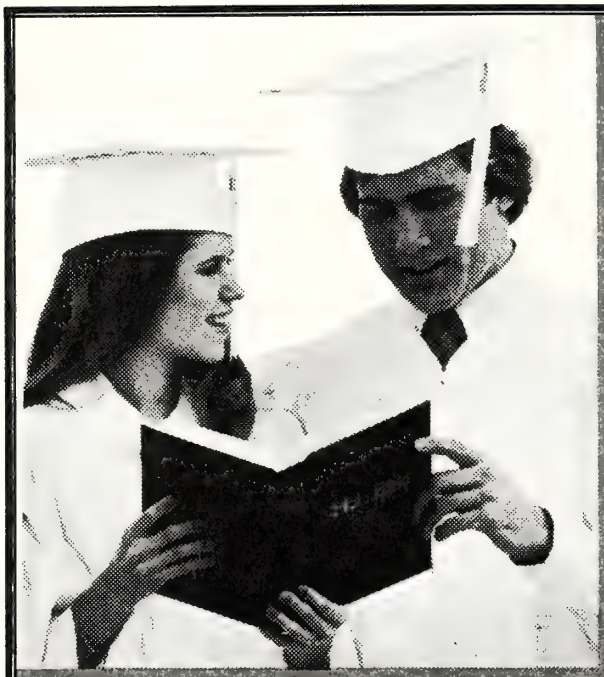
Other Comments: _____

_____

Mail to the Rev. Steve Hargrove (Route 3, Box 294, Ayden, NC 28513) only if you did not receive a report blank through the mail.



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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 98 Number 23

JUNE 15, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Editorial

How Committed Are YOU?

Richard Stockton returned to his New Jersey home to find that it had been overrun by the enemy; everything he owned had been destroyed. Stockton himself was then taken prisoner.

Carl Braxton, a wealthy planter, was captured—along with his ships; and the money he loaned to the American cause was never returned.

Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Ellery, Clyner, Hall, Heyward, Middleton, Harrison, Hopkinson, and Livingston.

"Honest John" Hart was driven from his wife's deathbed and when he returned, she had succumbed and all his children were gone.

Such are the stories and sacrifices of those who risked everything to sign the Declaration of Independence. These men were not wild-eyed rabble rousers—they were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security but they valued freedom more. And after they won their "victories," they hoped they would not be thrown away by others who did not care. "Yes, we did produce a near perfect republic," Thomas Jefferson said; "but will they keep it, or will they in the enjoyment of plenty, lose the memory of freedom? Material abundance without character is the surest way to destruction."

I wonder what those noble patriots would think if they were alive today. But more importantly, I wonder how seriously we take our religious freedom and so-called "commitment." I ask, "What sacrifices are we willing to make to promote the cause of Christ. Are we willing to become aware, interested, informed, concerned, involved—in that order?" I don't think so. Why am I of this opinion? Well, let's think about our Christian commitment, our dedication to following Christ and His teachings.

Think about your church. Now, name five people who were not there Sunday. Why were they absent? Were they sick, out of town, apathetic and cold? Have you contacted those people and told them they were missed? (Christ told us to care for our brothers and sisters.)

Think about your Sunday school class. How many people on your class roster were absent? Where were they? Were they sick, out of town, apathetic and cold? Have you contacted them and told them they were missed? (The Christian cause will never grow if we continue to be so "caring.") How many people left months, years ago, and have never been contacted?

Think about the people you know. How many of them are experiencing trouble? Are you praying for them or talking about them? Are you pushing them down, stomping them under—or offering them a hand? How many of your "acquaintances" have you chosen to "gossip" about recently? You know, most folks had rather do this than find out the facts; the only exercise some people get is jumping to conclusions. Christ admonished us to work out differences in "loving" ways; the Scriptures teach that we should "bury the hatchet at sunset"—that doesn't mean we are to get up before sunrise and stand there with our shovels to uncover that same anger

(Continued on Page 14)

THE U TURN

by Niki Rasberry

Joanna had always been a good student. Her teachers had always given her excellent conduct reports. Her parents had always been able to trust her completely. Then came high school; then things changed.

Joanna wasn't the wild type, but she did live an active social life. Before high school, she found it easy to juggle parties and dances around her schoolwork. But now the workload was hard and heavy. Joanna's former A's and B's took the shape of C's and D's. Now that we're up to date, here's where the trouble starts.

Joanna sneaked into the house Friday afternoon; report cards had just come out and she knew she was in for it.

"Oh, terrific," Joanna thought to herself, "a totally perfect weekend ruined!"

For some "odd" reason, her parents didn't take kindly to D's in Algebra.

"Algebra," Joanna said to herself, "it sounds like a fatal disease." She took the word and twisted her tongue around it until it sounded foreign to her ear.

Well, needless to say, Joanna's parents eventually found out about her "wonderful" grades. Suddenly, Friday's skating, Saturday's dance, and Sunday afternoon's movie were turned into a weekend with the books.

Soon afterward, Joanna found herself grounded. She turned bitterly hostile toward her parents. Something began to grow inside of her. Something evil and choking. A weed. A weed that some call Hate.

Joanna found now that she was always taking the defensive side against her parents. If they said that the sky was gray, she'd swear that it was blue.

But her homelife was not the only thing that was changing. Joanna began to hang out with the crowd of people that she had formerly referred to as "juicers" and "narkies." (For those of you who don't know, a "juicer" is an alcoholic; and a "narkie" is one who uses narcotics, such as marijuana and depressives.)

When the gang of friends she'd left behind began to question her, Joanna simply answered by saying, "Oh, they're not so bad after all."

Joanna's new image began to grow. As a result, she fell from teacher's pet to class clown.

One day, Sheila, the leader of the group of people that Joanna hung out with, offered Joanna some marijuana. She was hesitant at first. But during the past few months, church had become somewhere Joanna went because she was forced to do so. However, her mind did float back to such things as, "Your body is the temple of God," sin, and so forth. Her mind also recalled the hatred she felt toward her parents. "What a perfect way to get back at them!" Joanna thought to herself. "Sure! Why not?" she answered Sheila coolly. "Why not?"

From then on, Joanna was almost always high. When she wasn't, she was wishing she were. Joanna soon found out that alcohol was almost as good as marijuana and it was a lot less expensive. (Speaking of money, Joanna's babysitting income was here one day and gone the next. When her mother mentioned it, she grew defensive and angry. The money was hers, wasn't it? She could spend it anyway she pleased! Forty-eight hours without the stuff was a nightmare for her.)

By this time, her mother, guidance counselor, and preacher were all on her case. Joanna often lied. Anything to make them leave her alone! Especially that bratty preacher. She couldn't get within twenty miles of him without having the Bible, church, and Christianity shoved down her throat!

So this was Joanna's life up until two months before her turning point. What turning point? (Well, keep reading.)

Sheila came up to Joanna on Thursday afternoon and said, "Hey Jo, my folks are going to be out of town Friday night and I'm planning to have a real blast! You know, guys, booze, reefers, the works! So you're coming, aren't you? You know how it goes, be there or be square!" Without giving Joanna a chance to answer, she ran on to her next class, calling over her shoulder, "See you there, 7:00 sharp!" Joanna knew she was grounded, but this was just too good an opportunity to pass up. Yes, she most certainly **would** be there.

Friday night Joanna put on her mini-skirt and plenty of make-up. On her way out the door, her mother stopped her. "Where are you going?" she asked.

"Oh, just to the library," Joanna answered quickly.

"So dressed up and with no books? Come on, Jo, the truth."

"Sure," Joanna said, smilingly innocently. With a wave she was out the door and on her way to the party. Joanna sighed in relief. She'd really catch it when she got home; but for now, she was free.

(Turn the Page)

By the time Joanna arrived, the party was well in swing and everyone was feeling really "good." As Joanna was walking in, Sheila and a few of her friends were getting ready to go on a little "joy ride." They invited her to come along. She accepted. It was easy to see that they weren't exactly straight. As a matter of fact, Joanna was the only one with single vision and sober. (Now don't get me wrong; if she had her way, Joanna would have been as high as everyone else.) The gang got into the car at 7:45.

By 8:30, all except Sheila were registered in the local hospital. Their injuries ranged from bruises and cuts to minor concussions. Sheila was dead.

Three days later, Joanna lay on her own bed, flowers and cards spread about her room. Visitors came and left, but Joanna just stared. Unfortunately, she was the only one of the group sober enough to remember the entire accident. But it had taken this to wake Joanna up. Suddenly she was afraid. Afraid of drugs **and** death **and** God.

She often awoke at night screaming. She dreamed of the accident and sometimes even "saw" Sheila in Hell.

(Continued on Page 14)

Some 1983 Winners of Youth Competitions . . .

(Others to be Printed Later)

Mechelle McPherson

Jeff May

Chris May

Beaverdam YFA Team: Abby McPherson (Alternate), Ann Hinson, Kendal Buffin and Jamy McPherson.

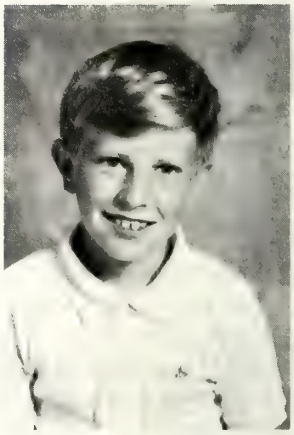
Leon Turnage

Tracey Marlean Watson

Kevin W. Dilday

Nikki Overton

Joseph Hank Reynolds



Russ Overton

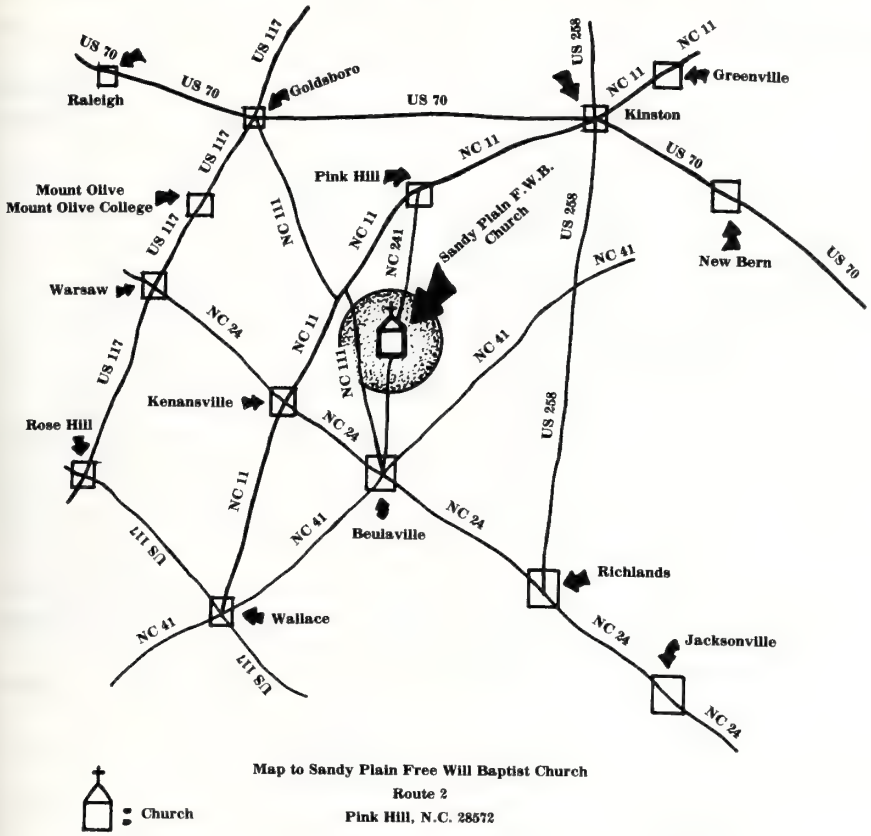
Beaverdam AFC Team: Lisa Walton, Kim Buff (Alternate) and Star Cribb

Holly Marie Hamilton

Teresa Mae Jackson

Amanda Benson

GENERAL CONFERENCE AT SANDY PLAIN CHURCH



Map to Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church
Route 2
Pink Hill, N.C. 28572

The General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will be held at Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, North Carolina, June 20-22, 1983. Directions to the church are shown on the map above.

A Word of Praise

The Albemarle Union Meeting met at Trinity Church near Pantego, on May 28, at 10 a.m. All of the area churches responded. There were also several ministers who attended the meeting, along with visiting ministers.

The spirit was great and the fellowship was wonderful. The business session was such as it would glorify God and His children. At prayertime, about half of the congregation gathered at the altar.

The morning message was delivered by the Rev. N. D. Beaman. It was very inspiring to everyone who attended. At the close of the service, everyone gathered in the fellowship hall for a very delicious meal.

Everyone seemed to be looking forward to another good Union Meeting on July 30, at Union Chapel near Plymouth.

Casey's Chapel Has Scholarship Fund

The Guiding Light Sunday School Class of Casey's Chapel Church established a $250 scholarship fund July 1982, to be given to a student entering college.

This scholarship is given to the student that the class members feel is most deserving. A student must be a member of Casey's Chapel Church and be active in church or Sunday school.

For the school year 1982-1983 the scholarship was given to Sandii Sims, a freshman at East Carolina University in Greenville. Sandii was a member of the YFA, youth choir and was currently teaching a Sunday school class.

The scholarship for the school year 1983-84 was presented to Donna Perry. Donna will be entering Mount Olive College in September. Donna is presently president of the youth group, member of the choir and assistant Sunday school teacher. Donna is always willing to help in any area of her church.

Piedmont Conference Has Quarterly Meeting

The quarterly meeting of the Piedmont Conference was held at East Rockingham Church in Rockingham, on May 28, 1983.

Among the speakers was Dr. Eugene Poston, who spoke on the Children's Home and Home Missions. The Rev. John Furr gave a progress report on the need of a campground for the conference and ways to raise money for it. Mrs. Brown gave the report on the Retirement Homes. The Rev. Carlee Stallard gave the treasurer's report. The Rev. Smith gave the report from the Ordination Council.

The Ordaining Council ordained and licensed two men, Douglas K. Brown and Ronnie Young.

The morning worship began with the Rev. Carl Lyons, pastor of East Rockingham Church, giving everyone welcome to the conference and to the church. Then the congregation sang "Dwelling in Beulah Land." Special singing was by Mrs. Dot Phelps and Mrs. Marie Holmes who sang, "What a Day That Will Be." Then Mrs. Jordan sang, "Love Lifted Me," and "He Looked Beyond My Fault." The congregation sang "Victory in Jesus," after which the Rev. John Furr brought the morning message from Revelation 12 on "Not Being a Stepchild to God."

A delicious lunch was served by members of the church.

(Continued on Page 14)

CONVENTION NEWS

Licensed and ordained pastors of the Free Will Baptist Church, Philippines. The Rev. Fred Baker is absent.

The Free Will Baptist Church Philippines held its 11th Annual National Convention on March 24 and 25, 1983, on the campus of Palawan Bible Institute. The theme chosen for this year's convention was taken from the theme of the 1982 North Carolina State Convention's Mission Rally: "THE SUPREME TASK OF THE CHURCH IS THE EVANGELIZATION OF THE WORLD!"

Two seminars on missions and evangelism were taught each morning by the Rev. Willem Hekman. Mr. Hekman is the Asian Director of the Torchbearer Missionary Fellowship. He formerly served as a missionary to Indonesia for twenty years with TEAM. He has also served with World Relief in sponsoring over 100 refugees during a four year stateside assignment with AMG, the publishers of "Pulpit Helps." His messages each evening were very challenging as well as searching.

Missionary Charles Barnard led a study on the history and present efforts of the North Carolina State Convention. Materials used included Mr. Bowen's "Missions in the Free Will Baptist Church" and the Missions Telethon materials used during the 1982 and 1983 telethons.

The Rev. Ludgerio Malinao gave an interesting lecture on the past and present evangelistic efforts of the Free Will Baptist Church in the Philippines. He also presented a challenge to the members, delegates, and pastors for the near future.

The following is the agenda followed during the business session:

I. Call to Order
II. Opening Prayer
III. Roll Call of Churches
IV. Roll Call of Pastors
V. Recognition of Delegates
VI. Reading of the Minutes of the 10th Annual Convention
VII. Treasurer's Report
VIII. Board of Trustees' Report
IX. Palawan Bible Institute Report
X. Report of Local Churches
XI. Old Business
XII. New Business
XIII. Adjournment

The following were elected to serve on the Board of Trustees for the next year:

President, the Rev. Pio dela Rosa
Vice-President, the Rev. Antonio M. Samones Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer, the Rev. Ludgerio E. Malinao
General Supervisor, the Rev. Charles I. Barnard
Member-at-Large, Mrs. Jackie A. Barnard

The following motions were made and approved by the Convention:

1. That the National Convention resolve that no elected or appointed church leader, local or national, may

Sign

be chosen if he or she is known to participate habitually in any of the commonly held vices.

2. That the National Convention assist one of our church members in obtaining musical leadership skills. This person would then serve as music teacher, choir director, and song leader for the National Convention. This would benefit our overall program and stimulate growth in our churches.
3. That the National Youth Association, voted into being during last year's convention, establish a summer Youth Camp Program.
4. That Mr. and Mrs. Alejandro Flor be asked to serve with the Rev. and Mrs. Barnard as Advisors of the Youth Association.
5. That the candidates for the 1983-84 term of the Board of Trustees of the Free Will Baptist Church be approved.
6. That we adjourn.

We thank God for a wonderful Convention. We believe He will strengthen our church through this time of fellowship and learning.

If any of you would like to know how you can help us to meet our needs, please contact the Rev. Harold Jones at the Foreign Missions Office.

Charles Barnard

P.B.I. GETS FACELIFT

Although the official school year ended March 18, things around the Palawan Bible Institute campus have not been slow. The 11th Annual Convention of the National Church was held. A six-week Short Term Bible School has been on-going. Our Annual Pastors' Conference will soon be held. And then before you know it June is here and school begins again. All this, and the use of the facilities by the Puerto Princesa Church as Sunday school classrooms and for Children's Church, have taken its toll on the school.

Outdoor signs, the church's sanctuary which is used as P.B.I.'s Chapel, and other items were showing signs of wear. Even the personnel seemed weary.

But no more! Things have taken on a new look. The sign boards have been freshly painted. This includes the pole. The front gates also received a fresh coat of paint. The P.B.I. logo on the front of the main building was repainted. The kitchen is a nice yellow with brown trim. It also boasts new plates, cups, bowls, silverware, glasses, tablecloth, etc. Even the church sanctuary has received a new pulpit curtain and new paint.

But that's not all! The sidewalk in front of the main building has been enlarged to serve as a stage for P.B.I. drama presentations and other events. New screens will soon cover the kitchen windows and a trash burner will soon be built.

Yes, P.B.I. has a new facelift. Even more exciting is the expectation of new faces on campus next year. We hope they enjoy these needed improvements. You can have a part in making P.B.I. more than just a "pretty face." Please remember us in your prayers daily.

Charles Barnard

COMING EVENTS

June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month

June 13-18—General Youth Conference, the Rev. Harry Grubbs, director; Cragmont

June 13-17—Woman's Auxiliary Conference at Camp Vandemere

June 15—The Ayden Seminary-Eureka College Alumni Meeting will be at Ayden Church, 10 a.m.

June 19—Superannuation Day in Local Churches

June 19—Father's Day

June 20-25—Christian Cadet Conference, the Rev. Bobby Taylor, director; Cragmont

June 27—July 2—Youth Frontier Conference (YFA), Cragmont; the Rev. Scott Sowers, director

June 27—July 1—Mount Olive College will hold its first annual Basketball School. Cost will be $50 for day participants and $100 for residents.

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

SOCIAL TASKS PROGRAMMING – WORKSHOPS

A series of Regional Workshops sponsored by the North Carolina Association of County Directors of Social Services, the North Carolina Social Services Association and the North Carolina Child Care Association were held across the State. The workshops entitled "Case Planning for Social Tasks Programming Information" were presented relating the conceptualization of social tasks program for: "Behavioral Change," "Family Clarification," "Crisis Care," "Supplemental Parenting," and "Preparation for Independence."

Region III Meeting was held at Falcon Children's Home, Dunn, North Carolina; staff attending were Susan Dalton and Bobby Taylor. Region IV-B Meeting was held at Williamston, North Carolina; attending were Mrs. Rebecca Davenport, vice-chairman of the Board, and Bobby Taylor.

These workshops provided clarification for Social Services to the programs being offered by those who are rendering Child Care Ministries. Social Services personnel focused on the purpose of placement rather than the reasons for placement.

Each workshop gave an update on tasks programs, an analysis of tracking system information, a comparison of written plans of care addressed to each of the social tasks, and practice in developing task-oriented plans of care.

The instructors were Clifford Sanford, director of Group Child Care Consultant Services, and Parker McLeandon, executive secretary of the North Carolina Child Care Association.

These workshops challenge us to the future quality Child Care Ministry.

Bobby R. Taylor
Director of Child Care

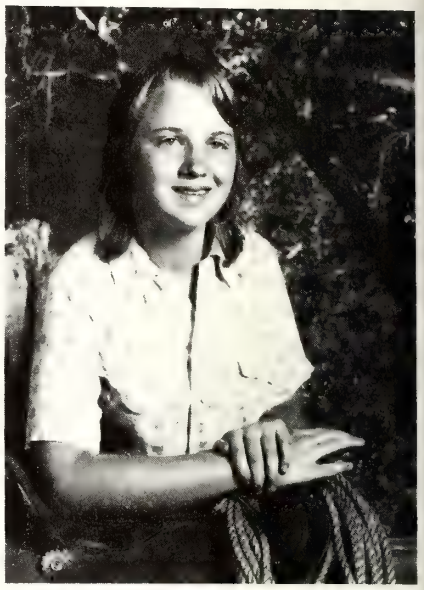
1983 GRADUATES

Ramona

We would like to congratulate our 1983 graduates. Ramona was a Senior at Southern Nash Senior High School and graduated on June 10, 1983. Now, after graduating, Ramona's plans are to go into independent living.

Angie

Also, graduating this year from the Sixth Grade were Angie and Donna. Angie and Donna attended Middlesex Elementary School and graduated on June 10. They will attend Southern Nash Junior High School in the fall.



Donna

We are very proud of all three of these girls and wish them good luck in the up-coming years!

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

"How can we help the Sunday school grow in the quantity of students and in the quality of its program?" How many times have you found yourself asking this question and not really knowing how to answer it? If you have found yourself at this point, then you will want to read *A Growing Church School.* It is written by Kenneth D. Blazier, who is Director of the Department of Educational Planning Services in the Board of Educational Ministries, American Baptist Churches. The book was published in 1978, by Judson Press. It is paperback and costs only $2.50.

The author begins by discussing the meaning of church or Sunday school growth. He defines it as "growth in quality and in numbers." He goes on to identify and discuss seven factors that are essential for a

(Continued on Page 14)

HOME FOR RETIRED PEOPLE

A home for Mama and Daddy in their retirement years is the concern of sons and daughters everywhere. If we can live from day to day with the assurance that our parents are receiving quality care and enjoying adequate housing, our lives and families are more secure and happy.

Your board of directors is putting forth every effort to make sure that those who choose to live with us in their retirement years receive these benefits.

We recognize the rights of each resident. The right to privacy. The right to choose their own physician. The right to visitors. The right to live in fellowship with friends and family. All these and more are rights that are important to all residents and to us.

Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes belongs to you. Help us have a better Home for our retired. How? Pray daily that God will give your board of directors Holy Spirit guidance and that each member will be submissive to that guidance. Encourage those you know who need a home to apply for residency with us. Offer suggestions to the board of directors as to how our retirement ministry can be improved and broadened. Make personal contributions to the ministry. Encourage your church to increase its giving support; take time to visit our campus at Middlesex; see our present buildings; meet our retired people who live here now; and ask to see our plans for future development and expansion.

Together we can provide for Mama and Daddy a home in their retirement years. The later years of their lives will be brighter and we will be happy because we did the best we could for those we love.

Let's do it! Let's begin this Spring to do all we can, the best we can, to make our Retirement Homes the greatest for those we love.

Below is a listing of your board of directors for Retirement Homes:

Name	Conference
Walter J. Sutton	Eastern
James B. Hardee	Pee Dee
Betty Lee	Cape Fear
Harry A. Jones	Central
Hazel Brown	Piedmont
Everett Harper	Western
Lloyd W. Jones Jr.	Albemarle
O. B. Jones	Central
Happy Taylor	Eastern
J. C. Yates	Western

Respectfully submitted,
Board of Directors

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
May, 1983
Total $2,753.98

ALBEMARLE	
District	$ 60.00
Total	$ 60.00
CAPE FEAR	
Bethel	$ 20.00
Casey's Chapel	75.00
Convention	75.00
Goldsboro, First	20.00
Palmer Memorial	20.00
Powhatan	100.00
Riverside	20.00
Shady Grove	20.00
Smithfield, First	20.00
Total	$370.00
CENTRAL	
Bethany	$ 20.00
Daniels Chapel	10.00
Dilda's Grove	20.00
Edgewood	45.00
Elm Grove	4.50
Free Union	2.00
Greenville, First	28.35
Grimsley	10.00
Gum Swamp	20.00
Harrell's Chapel	10.00
Hickory Grove	7.00
Howell Swamp	20.00
Hugo	110.00
King's Cross Roads	10.00
La Grange	20.00
Little Creek	20.00
Marlboro	40.00
Ormondsville	20.00
Reedy Branch	10.00
Rocky Mount, First	50.00
Rose Hill	20.00
Rose of Sharon	20.00
Saratoga	33.00
Tarboro, First	20.00
Total	$569.85
EASTERN	
Angola	$ 60.00
Arapahoe	20.00
Bridgeton	20.00
Cabin	20.00
Croatan	25.00
Holly Springs	500.00
Kinston, First	20.00
May's Chapel	100.00
Northeast	20.00
Piney Grove	10.00
Rock of Zion	20.00
Saints Delight	20.00
Smith's New Home	40.00
Snow Hill	20.00
Spring Hope	10.00
Verona	20.00
Westside	20.00
Whaley's Chapel	20.00
Total	$965.00
PEE DEE	
District	$ 15.00
Total	$ 15.00
PIEDMONT	
Sweet Haven	$ 20.00
Total	$ 20.00
STATEWIDE	
Christian Service Fund	$152.13
Total	$152.13
RELIGIOUS OTHER	
First St. Cloud, Florida	$ 5.00
Total	$ 5.00
WESTERN	
Calvary	$ 20.00
Flood's Chapel	6.00
Free Union	200.00
Fremont	10.00
Friendship	11.00
Mount Zion (Nash)	20.00
Mount Zion (Wilson)	20.00
People's Chapel	25.00
Pleasant Hill	15.00
Rock Springs	20.00
Sherrons Acres	25.00
Stancil's Chapel	20.00
St. Mary's	10.00
Trinity	20.00
Union Grove	20.00
Wilson, First	155.00
Total	$597.00

June is Cragmont Assembly Month.

MINISTERS' INSTITUTE TO FOCUS ON STRESS AND HEALTH

The Rev. Roy M. Oswald

Ministerial Stress and Health is the theme for the annual Ministers' Institute sponsored by Mount Olive College to be held this year on Monday and Tuesday, August 8, 9, beginning at 9 a.m. in the Henderson Building.

Monday's program will feature the Rev. Roy M. Oswald, director of the Alban Institute in Washington, D.C. Throughout the day, he will discuss "Identifying Current Levels of Stress," "Exploring Coping Strategies," and "Learning How to Move More Deeply into Self-Care."

The Rev. Oswald is director of training and field studies at the Alban Institute, a center which provides continuing education programs for ministers and other church professionals. He holds a master of divinity degree from the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago and has published a number of works which deal with pastoral relationships, including *Clergy Stress/Clergy Burnout* and *A Minister Ministers to Ministers.*

The Rev. Frank Harrison, director of church relations at Mount Olive College, requests that each minister who plans to attend read *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth* by Richard J. Foster. The book may be obtained through the Free Will Baptist Bookstore in Ayden or branch bookstores which are located in Smithfield, Kinston, Whiteville, New Bern, and Wilson.

Tuesday's program will focus on the topic of "The Minister's Health, Growth, and Development." Speakers and presentations will be as follows: Dr. W. Burkette Raper, "The Minister and His Spiritual Development"; the Rev. Steve Sprinkle, "The Minister and His Professional Development"; Larry Dean, "The Minister; His Nutrition and Exercise"; and Calvin Mercer, "The Biblical Concept of Prayer and Fasting."

Registration for the Institute is $10 per minister. Wives are encouraged to attend at no additional charge. Lunch will be served in the college cafeteria at a cost of $2.50 per meal.

For additional information, contact the Rev. Frank Harrison at Mount Olive College (phone: 658-2502) or at his home (phone: 658-9363).

WAS THE ICE CREAM MAN HER FATHER?

by the Rev. Timothy Webber

It all started when he pulled his truck over and asked what kind of popsicle she wanted. The little blond-haired girl replied, "Oh, I don't want to buy anything, I just wanted to meet you."

After the introduction and some friendly chit-chat he drove off. Many times she would stop him for ice cream or to introduce him to one of her little friends.

Then one day as she and her little friend walked away eating their ice cream, her little friend said, "What's your father like?" As the ice cream man was leaning over rearranging the boxes in his truck he suddenly realized she was describing him to the letter. As he stood up and looked at the two children, the little blond-haired girl looked over her shoulder and winked at him. He never asked where her real father was; he just loved her and always took the time to talk with her.

Is this story for real? The children are. You see them every day. Some turn to the ice cream man, some to their school teacher or bus driver. The list of make-believe parents is endless. So is the list of lonely children.

The little boy asks his dad a question and gets this answer. "Not now son, I want to hear this T.V. program."

The little girl comes running in all excited over her report card and finds the following note on the kitchen table.

> "Your dinner is in the microwave oven. The blouse you wanted washed is in the drier, leave your report card on the table and your father will sign it when he comes in from the office, I've gone to play bridge with the girls.
>
> Love Mom"

As we approach this Father's Day season, I can't help but wonder who our children will be honoring and getting their advice from: the ice cream man, their teacher, or Ann Landers.

The Bible said, "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity (love)" (1 Corinthians 13:13, KJV).

How sad it is that our children are usually the last ones to see this great spiritual gift practiced in our everyday life.

NO BAPTIST

Due to our policy of printing only 48 issues a year, there will not be a Free Will Baptist paper dated June 29. The next issue will be dated July 6.

For June 19

CALEB: LOYAL AND PATIENT

Lesson Text: Numbers 13: 30-33; 14:24; 32:10-12

Memory Verse: Joshua 14:9

I. INTRODUCTION

Henry was not the type of person upon whom the spotlight would dwell, nor would he have wanted that. Yet it seemed that when a pair of willing hands were needed for some cause, he was there. His manner of speech was not especially forceful, yet often his quiet words were such as to bring calm in the midst of stress and turmoil. He was not wealthy, though he made a modest living from his fruit ranch; yet somehow he seemed to be able to help when help was needed. He sang in the choir and in the men's quartet. And, although his bass voice was not sensational, it was a blessing to hear him, for it was evident that his words came from his heart as well as from his mouth. The quartet would sing, "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" and my body tingles yet, just remembering his refrain: "Oh, sometimes it causes me to *tremble, tremble, tremble"!* Henry Gilliland was one of the best deacons I ever knew, and his life was a blessing to all who knew him. Perhaps the one word that best describes his character is *dependability.* Dependability, steadfastness, trustworthiness—these are traits that ought to characterize any and all of us who would serve in a supportive role in the work of the Lord.

Today's lesson continues our series about some Bible characters who were not so prominent, yet whose lives made real contributions to the work of God. Today we consider the life of Caleb, and as we do so we should profit from his example. We will see that through loyalty and patience one may indeed lend great support to the continuing work of the Kingdom of God.

Under the leadership of Moses, and with the help of others, God had delivered the people of Israel from Egyptian bondage. There had been numerous difficulties on the journey to Sinai, yet every difficulty had been met and overcome by the sustaining power of God. The armies of Pharaoh had been totally ineffective against Israel, just as were the forces of Amalek. At Sinai God had entered into a solemn covenant with these people. "You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt," He said. "Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation" (Exodus 19:4-6, *New International Version).* What a promise that was! God's treasured possession, God's people. And along with this privilege was the further promise that they would possess Canaan.

After spending more than a year at Sinai, during which time they received God's Law and were organized into a nation, Israel moved on toward the Promised Land at God's direction.

Now they were camped in the wilderness of Paran, a region of the eastern part of the Sinai peninsula, south of Canaan. The Lord instructed Moses, "Send some men to explore the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites" (Numbers 13:1, *New International Version).* The venture into the new land was not to be made with their eyes shut. (Did not Jesus say something to us about considering carefully the life to which He calls us without rushing impetuously into it?) Israel had to put forth effort to take Canaan; that is certain. And it was better to know this beforehand than to come suddenly upon extreme circumstances. One able leader was to be chosen from each of the tribes, twelve in all, to spy out the land.

What kind of persons were these men? How mature had they become as the people of God? Alas, it appears that they still possessed the slave mentality. Children of God? Oh, it is nice to say. Yet, even after the great deliverances they had experienced during the past two years, it appears that they still looked upon themselves as no more than a group of ex-slaves. That is, all except two, Caleb and Joshua. They apparently believed that the covenant God had made with them was for real. They were workers together with God.

After forty days of exploration through the land, the twelve returned to the camp of Israel. "It is indeed a land flowing with milk and honey," they reported, and they exhibited some of the fruit they brought with them. "But—" Then they called attention to the warlike nature of the tribes who possessed the land. They were ready to give up the whole venture.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. A POINT TO PONDER

The reward for faith does not always come at the time one stands up in faith. The reward for Caleb and Joshua was delayed over a long period of time. This waiting period must have caused them to wonder if they did the right thing.—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

Scripture Reading—Daniel 9-12

YOU'VE UNDONE THEIR LABOR

Josiah Wedgwood, maker of the famous Wedgwood pottery, one day showed a nobleman through the factory. A boy who was an employee of the factory accompanied them. The nobleman was profane and vulgar. At first the boy was shocked by the nobleman's irreverence. Then he became fascinated by his coarse jokes and laughed heartily. Mr. Wedgwood was distressed. At the conclusion of the tour, he showed the nobleman a vase of unique design. The man was charmed with its exquisite shape and rare beauty. As he reached for it, Mr. Wedgwood designedly let it fall to the floor. The nobleman uttered an angry oath! "I wanted that vase for my collection," he said, "and you have ruined it by your carelessness!" Mr. Wedgwood answered, "Sir, there are other ruined things more precious than a vase, howsoever valuable, which can never be restored. You can never give back to that boy, who has just left us, the reverence for sacred things which his parents have tried to teach him for years! You have undone their labor in less than half an hour!"

Let's cease pleading for "showers of blessings" until we make amends, as far as we can, for the wrongs we have done others.

MONDAY, JUNE 20

Scripture Reading—Hosea 1, 2

WHY HATRED VANISHED

Some Scottish soldiers were cut off from their company while in fierce engagement with the enemy during World War II. They hid in the loft of an empty house. Death seemed to be inevitable. The Germans were setting fire to surrounding homes and buildings. Nearer and nearer they came to the hiding place of the Scottish lads. Said one of them, "It's time for church, partners. Let's hae a wee bit of service here. It may be oor last!" He took a New Testament from his pocket and after reading some verses, he said, "I'm no' a gude hand at this job, but let us finish it off with prayer." After a pause, he began to read reverently and feelingly—"Our Father, which art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name." About midway the prayer, they heard a click of heels. They knew the Germans were below, standing reverently at attention! After the prayer, the Scottish lads heard the door close silently, and the sounds of footsteps dying away. Marked reverence for things sacred created an atmosphere in which hatred vanished.

O God of love, within my heart
Ignite love's sacred flame,
That I, by loving actions, may
Bring honor to Thy name.

TUESDAY, JUNE 21

Scripture Reading—Hosea 3-6

THEY TOOK A BATH!

Profoundest reverence characterized the ancient copyists of the Scriptures. It is said that when they came to a name for Deity, they put new pens into their writing instruments, took a bath, and changed raiment. What a far cry from that is our present-day irreverence for things sacred. With flippant, barefaced irreverence we intrude into those places where sinless angels tread with veiled faces and hesitant steps.

O God of peace, control my life,
No longer will I flee,
For I shall never know soul-rest
Until I rest in Thee.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

Scripture Reading—Hosea 7-14

HOW BIG IS YOUR GOD?

"You must have a small God," said a Mohammedan to an American tourist. "Oh, no," quickly replied the American, "we have a great and mighty God, at whose word of command, the universe and all that is therein came into existence!" "Still I believe you Americans have a small God, for when you pray to Him, you do it so indifferently and irreverently. When we Mohammedans pray, we fall prone on our faces in acknowledgment of the mightiness of God."

Who would say that the follower of the false prophet, Mohammed, did not have a talking point? Sinless angels, in approaching God, veil their faces as they adoringly and reverently say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory" (Isaiah 6:3). Sinful man doesn't.

Revive Thy work, O Lord,
And manifest Thy power;
O come upon Thy church and give
A penitential shower!

THURSDAY, JUNE 23

Scripture Reading—Joel

CHATTERBOXES

A young lady, under deep conviction of sin, entered a church. She sat near the front. In the pew ahead of her was a row of young ladies who were professed Christians, the daughters of church leaders. During the service they whispered, exchanged notes and snapshots of themselves and their boy friends. Their irreverence so disturbed and distressed the convicted girl that all thoughts of seeking the Saviour vanished and she arose and went out of the church, disgusted and unsaved. Before the judgment bar of God, those flippant, frivolous girls will have to give an account for a soul convicted of sin, but not converted to God.

But the LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him (Habakkuk 2:20).

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

Scripture Reading—Amos 1-6

BLAZING EYES, AND ROPED HEIFERS

In my earlier years, I was a news correspondent. Often I reported Bible conferences in which world-famed Bible teachers spoke. Once, as Dr. R. A Torrey was speaking, two young ladies, in the rear of the auditorium, began to whisper and snicker. Dr. Torrey suddenly stopped speaking. His eyes seemed to blaze as he sternly and severely rebuked the girls for their irreverence! They were deeply wounded. Should he have dealt more kindly with them?

Billy Sunday had a similar situation in one of his meetings. Observing the misbehavior of two girls, who sat near the front of the tabernacle, he called out, "Ushers, come and rope these two heifers and carry them out of the tabernacle!"

Possibly none of us could thus speak to anyone without greatly grieving the Spirit of God, though irreverence in the house of God must not be condoned.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

Scripture Reading—Amos 7-9, Obadiah

ASK GOD'S APOLOGY

President Woodrow Wilson took great pleasure in referring to his father, the Rev. Joseph R. Wilson, who was a distinguished Presbyterian minister. "Father was once in the company of some men who were having a heated discussion. In the midst of their animated talk a man emitted a volley of curse words, coupled with the name of God. Then he remembered that father was present! He instantly apologized, saying, 'Dr. Wilson, I had forgotten that you were present. Please pardon me.' Father's reply was, 'It is not to me that you owe your apology, but to God!' "

Revive Thy work, O Lord,
And make Thy servant bold;
Convict of sin and work once more,
As in the days of old!

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

Yearbook for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina

1982-83 Edition

This publication provides a comprehensive overview of denominational information and activities. Nowhere else can one find such an all-inclusive volume.

$6.95 each

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 4)

God was the answer and she knew it. Joanna wasn't stupid. She snapped out of the horrible trance that seemed to paralyze her entire being and called her preacher. Sheila had played the game of life and lost. Joanna was one of the lucky few whose game went into overtime. And she won.

How about you?

Niki Rasberry lives at 113 Martha Loop, Farmville, North Carolina. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Paul Rasberry. She is 13 years old and in the 8th grade at Farmville Middle School. She attends Marlboro Church in the Central Conference. Her competition for this writing was in Christian Writing, and she won 1st place in the AFC grouping at the State Youth Convention. Her hobbies include piano, swimming, reading, and Girl Scouts.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 5)

Honors Pastor on Wedding Anniversary

The Rev. and Mrs. Foy Futrelle

The First Original Free Will Baptist Church of Warsaw honored its pastor and his wife, the Rev. Foy and Hattie Futrelle, on their 39th wedding anniversary, February 2, 1983. The couple was honored with a reception in the fellowship building of the church. They were presented with a pair of praying hands bookends.

CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 8)

growing Sunday school. They are a congregation which considers the church school a major priority, a pastor who participates in church school planning and promotion, intentional planning, student and parental satisfaction, dedicated and caring lay leaders, attendance goals and promotion, and an ongoing program of visitation. Next the author outlines the steps that may be used in a particular church to identify strengths and weaknesses so that plans can be made to strengthen those factors that are weakest. Additional resources dealing with specific areas of interest and books for further reading are also suggested.

A Growing Church School is a very practical and helpful book. It is written especially for superintendents, pastors, boards or committees of Christian education, and other Sunday school officers. It would be a great resource for study by your Sunday school council or board of Christian education. It can be ordered through one of our bookstores.

CHURCHES OF THE ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

All churches of the Albemarle Conference and the men of the churches are invited to the next meeting of the Albemarle Layman's League. Churches with no Layman's League are especially invited. St. Paul Church will host the meeting on June 17, 1983, at 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served after the meeting during a time of fellowship.

Michael Cuthrell
Secretary-Treasurer

RESIGNS BOARD

The Rev. Robert May, a 17-year member of the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., resigned effective May 17, 1983. Since the death of the late Rev. Hubert Burress, Mr. May had served as secretary of the Board.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

at the first hint of sunlight the next morning. But I do realize that there are people who just do not want others to make it; there are people who care less how much of a stumbling block they are.

Quickly now, describe your neighbors. You know, the ones you're supposed to be reaching. If you don't know them, chances are they do not know you. Chances are even greater that the gospel message has never reached them. If we care, if we are committed, we will live like it.

How committed are we? How much do we resemble Christ? How much are we willing to sacrifice for the cause of Christ? I am afraid I have to say "not too." Many noble patriots gave everything to give us freedom; Christ gave His all to give us religious freedom. Noble patriots were willing to die for their beliefs to be realized. Why is it then that we are not willing to live according to what we say is ours?

CAMP EAGLES NEST

For Hearing Impaired Students

Sponsored by:
North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists Department of Home Missions and Church Extension

June 26—July 1, 1983
Directors: The Rev. Dale Albertson
Jasmine Albertson
Phone: 753-4340

The campground is located at Eagles Nest Conference Center, near Goldsboro, North Carolina, off Highway 111 South. The camp is owned and operated by Mount Olive College.

The express purpose of this camp is to provide Christian instruction and fellowship through Bible classes, wholesome recreation and captioned Christian films. Activities will include supervised swimming, hiking, sports, and crafts. The evenings include children's church services and a relaxing time to view captioned films.

CAMP PERSONNEL

Staff members for the camp will include teachers of the deaf as well as concerned parents and friends. Qualified personnel will be provided for all teaching, life-guard services, first-aid and supervision of all activities. Staff members volunteer their services as this camp is a non-profit organization.

DATES AND TIMES

We will leave the campus of E.N.C.S.D. at 4 p.m., Sunday, June 26, 1983, and return at 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 1. (Bus will be provided.)

Parents may carry their children to the campground if they choose, however, please let us know your choice.

Also, if you live in another locality and need help with transportation, please feel free to inform us.

COST AND APPLICATION

Due to the generous financial support of our Home Missions Board, churches and individuals, the cost will only be $20 per camper (Campers will not need any extra spending money.) The $20 will be used toward the purchase of insurance and supplies, thus it cannot be refunded. Please return the attached application as soon as possible, to aid in the necessary preparations for camp.

APPLICATION FOR CAMP EAGLES NEST FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED

Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____

Parent's Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Emergency Names and Phone _____

Amount enclosed $ _____ Hearing Aid Type _____

Give instructions for medication. Will he/she be riding the bus? _____

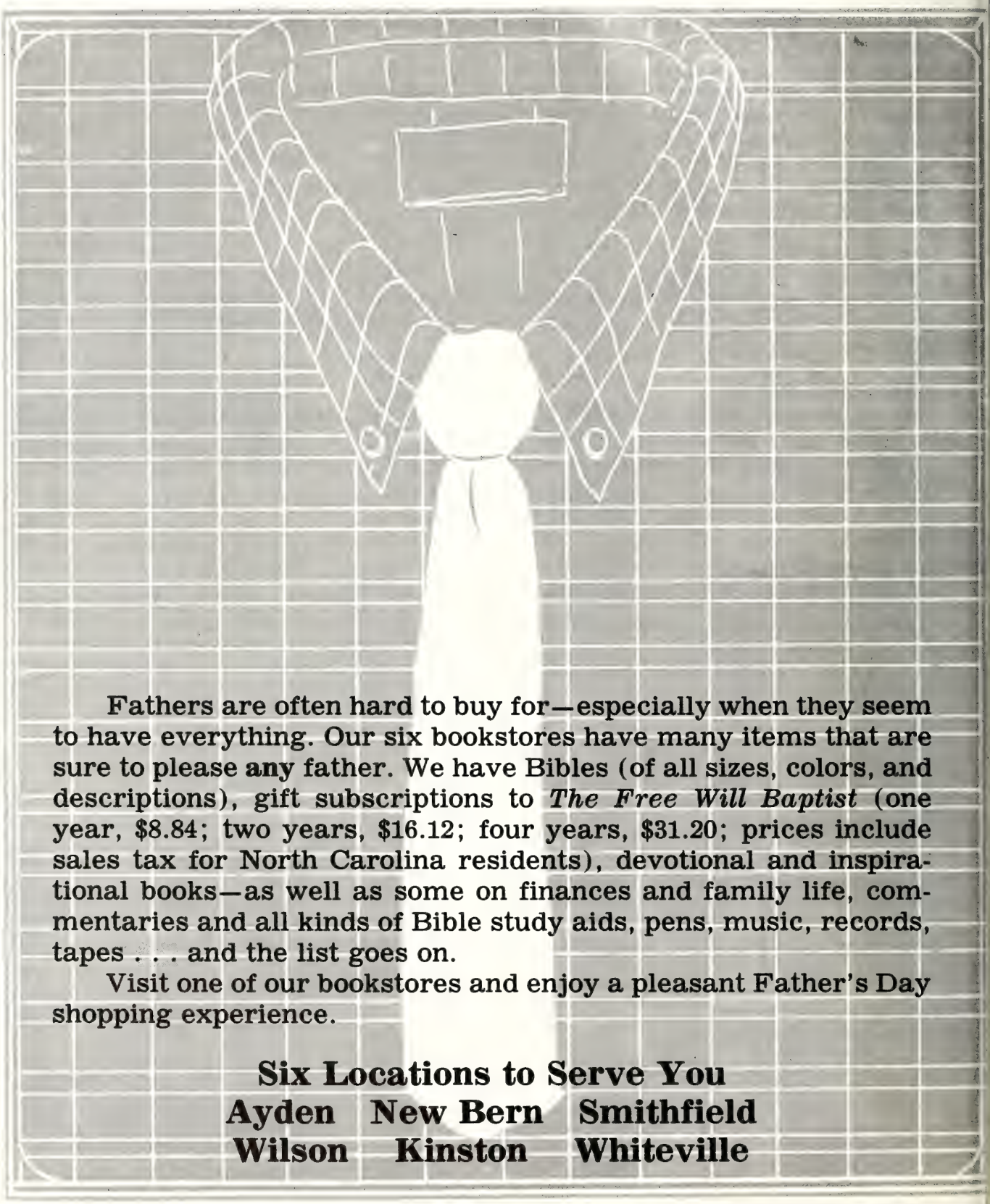
_____

I assume full responsibility for my child and will not hold the camp liable in case of an accident or sickness.

Signed: _____
(parent or guardian)

Return to: Jasmine Albertson
Route 2, Box 51
Walstonburg, North Carolina 27888

WHAT TO BRING
Bed linens and pillow
Blanket or sleeping bag
Towels and bath cloths
Toiletries and flashlight
Lightweight jacket
Bathing suit (Modest)
Shirts and shorts
Jeans and shoes for hiking
Pajamas and robe
One outfit suitable for evening camp



Fathers are often hard to buy for—especially when they seem to have everything. Our six bookstores have many items that are sure to please **any** father. We have Bibles (of all sizes, colors, and descriptions), gift subscriptions to *The Free Will Baptist* (one year, $8.84; two years, $16.12; four years, $31.20; prices include sales tax for North Carolina residents), devotional and inspirational books—as well as some on finances and family life, commentaries and all kinds of Bible study aids, pens, music, records, tapes . . . and the list goes on.

Visit one of our bookstores and enjoy a pleasant Father's Day shopping experience.

Six Locations to Serve You

Ayden New Bern Smithfield

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 1983,
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Camerique

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Volume 98 Number 24

June 22, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

Down and Up

Dear Lord,

In the morning, all of our problems seem half as big. Well, it's shortly after lunch now and they—my problems—are beginning to loom twice as large. But I know that by nightfall, my memory will find evidence of your faithfulness and of your presence. And by tomorrow, things will be better; it's strange how night has a way of "knitting up the raveled sleeve of care."

Lord, help us to remember that it is not our critics who count; nor the man who points out how we stumbled, or how he thinks we did, or when we might could have done better. The credit, Father, belongs to the one who is in the arena—whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again; who knows great enthusiasm, great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly; so that his place shall never be with those cold and tired souls who know neither victory nor defeat.

But sometimes it is so hard to keep on trying. Yes, I know; nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not—for nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not—the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination are omnipotent. Lord, help us to be persistent and determined—only, though, when our cause is directly aligned with your will.

Help us to shift our emphasis from problems to challenges. The relationship of this action to tension is quite close. When we have problems, we worry about them. On the other hand, when we have challenges, we work, apply, and "attack" the situation, aiming to get things done, to get results. The shift in thinking from problems to challenges is so very important in making tension an asset.

And you know, Lord, I've learned that the essential difference between the unhappy, neurotic type and the happy, normal person is often the difference between get and give. The unhappy person is concerned with: the world is against me, what's in it for me, what are people doing to me, and so forth. When our central theme in life is getting we usually do get—headaches and heartaches! But the happy person is looking toward what he can do, what he can give, what he can accomplish.

Lord, may my utterances awaken all your human reminiscences, that we may feel in our hearts the sympathizing Jesus. You have walked this earthly vale and have not forgotten what it is to be tired, what it is to know aching muscles. You have not forgotten what it is to feel the sharp stabs of pain, or hunger, or thirst. You know what it is to feel forgotten, and lonely. You remember the feel of hot and scalding tears running down your cheeks.

(Continued on Page 15)

Strength Through Christ

Do my friends know that I am a Christian or am I hiding that fact from the world for fear of being ridiculed? I want to stand up for Christ wherever I am, but it is not easy, and I am afraid that sometimes I fail Him. A story that I heard some time ago often comes to mind. A young man who had recently accepted Christ was leaving home to work in a lumber camp. Having heard that the lumbermen were rough, worldly men, he was a little fearful of the ridicule he might encounter. Knowing this, his parents were quite eager to know what had happened at the camp. When he returned home for a visit, their first question was, "What happened when the men found out that you are a Christian?" The young man's answer was, "Nothing, they never found out."

I do not want to be that kind of Christian. Therefore, I often find myself thinking of what it really means to be a Christian in today's world of temptation and sinful attractions. I sincerely want to do what is right just as all Christian young people do. But how?

Let's think of one particular area in which I must take a stand if I am to show others that I am a Christian . . . the area of alcohol. Because of peer pressure, this is a source of especially strong temptation for a young Christian.

Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20: "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." This says to me that our bodies belong to God.

Therefore, we cannot damage our own health by participating in many of the practices that are very common all around us. Yet if we do not drink alcoholic beverages or use other drugs, we are nagged, laughed at, and teased, often by our own friends. Actually they are not really friends because real friends would never ask us to do anything that is harmful. When such a situation occurs, we must remember to pray and ask for God's help, always keeping in mind that God is more important than "so-called" friendships. Being familiar with the Bible can also help me and other Christian young people to realize the dangers of the social drink. Proverbs 20:1 says, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." An even stronger description of the harmful effects of strong drink is found in Proverbs 23:29-32, "Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder."

In addition to what alcohol does to the body, it seems to destroy also the moral fiber of a person's being. When this occurs, anything can happen. Murder, immorality, and all kinds of violence fill the headlines of our newspapers today as the direct result of the drinking of liquor. Statistics gathered by the FBI show that the largest percentage of these crimes are committed by teenagers. This tragic waste of human life would have never happened if those teenagers had not taken that first drink. Often we may be tempted to drink a glass of beer because of its lower alcohol content. We must not yield or it will be like the old Arab proverb where the camel first got its nose in the tent and then the whole camel moved in. If I am to be a Christian and a witness to others, I must not even take a sip of alcoholic beverage, no matter how much pressure my companions use.

Recently I heard a young adult say that he was strengthened to refuse a drink offered to him because another young Christian in the group said "no." If anyone is watching me, I want him to see a Christian teenager who is strong enough to live for Jesus at all times. To do so all I need is God because Philippians 4:13 says, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Anthony Flynn Sawyer is of Route 2, Box 277-A, Columbia, North Carolina. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Roy F. Sawyer. He is 16 years old and is in the 10th grade. He goes to Columbia High School. He attends Soundside Church in the Albemarle District. He was a district winner in the Christian writing competition, and won second place at the State Youth Convention in the same category. Anthony's hobbies are sports, swimming, skiing, and camping. At church he is YFA President and at school he is in the Monogram Club and Beta Club.

DR. PELT PARTICIPATES IN SEMINAR TO MEXICO

Dr. Michael Pelt

Dr. Michael Pelt, chairman of the department of religion at Mount Olive College, was one of 17 pastors, church officials, and professors who participated this spring in the "Introduction to Mexico" Seminar sponsored by Duke Divinity School. The main emphasis of the travel/study continuing education program was "The Faith and Mission of the Church in Latin America Today."

Approximately 90 percent of the people in Mexico are Catholic, although the official stance of the Mexican government is to remain neutral on religious matters. Dr. Pelt learned that, in fact, the President of Mexico does not attend church while he holds office in order to avoid any show of partiality by the government toward any religious group.

"Officially there is separation of church and state," explained Dr. Pelt. However, what this means in Mexico is that neither the Catholic Church nor the Evangelicals, as Protestants are called, can own any property. All churches and all church property, including the furniture, hymnals, and other literature belong to the government. Furthermore, any new church that is built must be presented to the government, and the individuals involved must petition the government for the building's use.

The church today in Mexico is generally conservative with the exception of Cuernavaca, where Dr. Pelt visited what are called "basic Christian communities." These are Bible study groups of 20-30 people who meet in each other's homes for the purpose of worship and discussion. This kind of Bible study is the exception rather than the rule in Mexico, explained Dr. Pelt.

He also visited Puebla and Oaxaca, in addition to Mexico City and Cuernavaca.

"Evangelicals" in Mexico include Baptists, Methodists, Free Will Baptists, Presbyterians, Disciples, and Quakers although the Methodists are the most active group. While visiting Mexico City, Dr. Pelt attended church at the Methodist Church of the Holy Trinity where he and all other teachers attending that Sunday were honored as "Maestro."

COMING EVENTS

June—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Cragmont Assembly Month

June 20-25—Christian Cadet Conference, Cragmont; the the Rev. Bobby Taylor, director

June 27—July 2—Youth Frontier Conference (YFA), Cragmont; the Rev. Scott Sowers, director

June 27—July 1—Mount Olive College will hold its first annual Basketball School. Cost will be $50 for day participants and $100 for residents.

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

July 9, 10—Homecoming Weekend at the Children's Home begins at noon, July 9

Youth News

JESUS

I. Who was Jesus?
The Son of God; the God of all mankind; the Saviour; my Father.

II. What did Jesus do?
He preached; He prayed; He healed people; He baptized people; He died for our sins.

III. Why does He bless us?
He loves us; He's kind.

IV. Where was Jesus born?
Bethlehem—in a stable—in a manger.

V. Where does He live now?
In Heaven; with God; in my heart.

VI. What Jesus means to me.
My God; a great Person; He stays with me. He forgave me of all my sins. He's there when I need Him. He gave me a home. He gave me a family. He gave me a dog. Most of all, He gave me LOVE.

Benje Wallace won second place in the AFC Christian Writing competition at the State Youth Convention. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Davenport, Benje goes to B. F. Grady School; and he attends Snow Hill Church in the Eastern District. His hobby is swimming.

FAITH MISSION HAS WALK-A-THON

Faith Mission of Leland had a walk-a-thon on April 16. The participants walked 14 miles. Their goal was $1,000. The youth went out and took pledges. Their money will be going to build the fellowship hall. Both the youth and some elder ones walked too. A special thanks goes to the refreshment committee. The walk-a-thon brought in $1,135.37.

FAITH YFA OF LELAND VISITS NURSING HOME

Faith YFA of Leland went to the Grotgen Nursing Home, on May 29, to minister to the elderly. The young people first of all sang some of their favorite songs. The elderly people sang along with them and even patted their feet to the time of the music.

Then the young people asked them what they wanted to hear, so they sang songs which the other people liked. After this the youth teacher sang some special songs. The program was ended with her singing of "The Lord's Prayer." The residents of the home were then escorted to their rooms by the young people. They all enjoyed talking to each other.

Men's Day at Kinston Church

Sunday, June 5, 1983, was Men's Day at the First Church, Kinston. The Sunday school and the morning worship service were carried out by the members of the Layman's League. The speaker for the service was Paul Beaman, president of the State Layman's League Convention.

One of the highlights of the annual Men's Day is the presentation of the "Man of the Year Award." This year's man of the year was C. J. Wiley, a deacon and president of the Layman's League. The presentation was given by Isaac Hines, chairman of the deacon board. The church recognized C. J. "as a valued member, a leader, a man of ideas, a man of vision, and a practical man with the courage and organization to get the job done."

After the morning service, a picnic lunch was served by the ladies of the church in honor of the "man of the year."

Pictured is the Rev. C. H. Overman, pastor, and C. J. Wiley, holding the certificate of award for the man of the year.

Church Spends Weekend At Camp Vandemere

The last weekend in May was "Camp Vandemere Weekend" for members of the First Church of Kinston. During the weekend more than thirty members of all ages attended

(Turn the Page)

the retreat. Some arrived on Friday afternoon, and some on Saturday. Devotional services were held during the retreat, but the highlight was a campfire service on Saturday night. Cooking and preparation of meals was done by the people of the church. The pastor of the Kinston Church is the Rev. C. H. Overman.

First Church of Warsaw Honors Couple

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Benson

First Church of Warsaw honored Mr. and Mrs. Robert Benson on their 36th wedding anniversary on May 22, 1983. The couple was honored with dinner in the fellowship building. They were presented with a set of sheets and pillowcases.

Children's Day at Kinston Church

Sunday, June 12, was Children's Day, at the First Church of Kinston. Special recognition and participation were given to the youth in the morning and evening services. The young people did all the special music in the morning worship service. The speaker was Don Ribeiro from Winterville, who is a licensed minister and also a medical student at ECU. The Ladies Auxiliary sponsored a "send a kid to camp contest" in which the youth were to write, in twenty-five words or less, "Why I Want to Go to Camp." During the service the winner was announced by the youth sponsor, Rose Stroud. The winner was Rhoda Rouse who has chosen to spend the week at Camp Vandemere.

The evening's activities included a weiner roast at 6 p.m. and an informal outdoor service. The speaker for the service was the Rev. Howard Scott of Kinston who did an excellent job speaking to the group and also leading everyone in a "sing-a-long."

Revival at Sneads Ferry Church

Revival services will be held at Sneads Ferry Church, Sneads Ferry, June 27—July 1. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Ronnie Mohn, pastor of First Church of Williamston. The pastor of the Sneads Ferry Church is the Rev. O. B. Taylor. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

King and Queen Contest At Cathedral Church

Susan Jones and Joel Winders

The children of the Junior Church of Cathedral Church in Durham, North Carolina, held a "King and Queen Contest" to raise money for the Children's Home in Middlesex. There were 8 participants in the contest—6 girls and 2 boys ranging in age from 2½ to 10 years old. Each participant had a jar with his name and picture on it and asked people for donations. The boy and girl who had the most money in their jar would be crowned king and queen for 1983. Susan Jones, age 3½, was queen; and Joel Winders, age 2½, was king. The participants did an excellent job and raised $200 for the Children's Home.

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

Every teacher has a method of or approach to preparing the Sunday school lesson each week. What is your method? How did you prepare to teach last Sunday's lesson? When did you begin preparation? What was the first thing you did? Before you read the remainder of this article, try to write down the steps you usually take in preparing to teach.

If you made a serious attempt to do the above exercise, then no doubt you learned something about your pattern of preparation. What did you learn? How orderly or systematic is your method? What are the strengths of your method? What are the weaknesses? Before continuing this article, take some time to seriously answer the above questions.

These two little exercises were aimed at helping you evaluate your method of preparation for teaching. Hopefully you discovered some significant insights. These exercises dealt with preparation because this is crucial for effective teaching. The quality of preparation has a great deal to do with the quality of teaching. Note that I did not say "quantity of preparation." If you are like most teachers, your time for preparation is limited. It is not so much the amount of time you spend in preparation as the wise use of the time you do have for preparation. Two to three

(Continued on Page 15)

EVANGELISM AND BAPTISM

All recent converts with the Rev. Aman, Pramod, the Rev. Samuel and Dr. E. M. Lall.

The months of March and April 1983 were full of blessings to the Free Will Baptist Church in India. In spite of adverse situations arising out of untimely heavy rainfall throughout this northern region, which destroyed the main crop of wheat and pulse, the main diet of the people in this part of the country, the Holy Spirit guided us in our programs. The long-awaited baptism of more than 83 persons was conducted. The highlight of this is that orthodox elderly persons were won for the Lord Jesus Christ. Besides individual baptisms, family baptisms were undertaken. Three families, praise the Lord, accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

Most of these converts are from rural backgrounds and I am glad to report that the gospel has penetrated through the minds of caste people also in the villages. It shows that people are really eager to know Jesus.

Evangelism nowadays is not so easy, as it is discouraged from all levels of authority and creates much opposition and many obstacles. However, we feel burdened to preach the good news to people and we experience the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we reap the harvest.

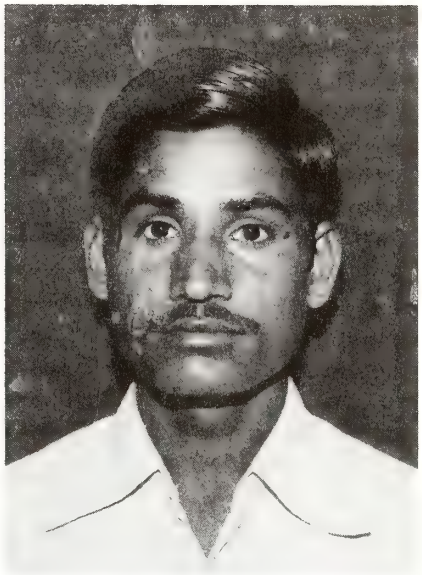
Will you please pray, participate, encourage and support our ministry through the Board of Missions?

Dr. E. M. Lall

ADULT LITERACY

We are grateful to God for giving us the vision to start the adult literacy program as a part of our church activity. According to the 1981 census 445 million are still illiterates; these live mainly in rural areas which is the field of our work.

Ever since the establishment of the Free Will Baptist Church in India we are eternally striving in evangelism; this has been our ultimate objective. An important segment of evangelism is the social concern. We are happy to report that a centre of adult literacy has been established at Gotha district, Budaun U.P. With the voluntary help from some of our church congregations the project has come into being. Mr. Naresh Paul has been appointed as a teacher for adult literacy with the help of Deacon Masih Charan. The number of persons attending and undergoing the program is 32. This special project of the church was begun on Monday, March 7, 1983. A great deal of interest has been seen among the participants and we hope that a real service is being rendered to our people under this plan.



Teacher Naresh Paul

A group of adults for literacy

The question is not what the Free Will Baptists have done in social concern but what more needs to be done. In a country like India social concern acquires wider and wider dimensions and approach. We feel that the church must penetrate into the evils and care for people in need.

Dr. E. M. Lall

EDUCATION ON DRUG ABUSE

Mr. Ken Keever

Recently, we welcomed Mr. Ken Keever to campus. Mr. Keever is a pharmacist from Columbia, North Carolina, and attends Sound Side Church.

Mr. Keever shared with staff and children vital information about the drug culture and drug abuse in our society. One of the great tragedies presented by Mr. Keever is the lack of proper knowledge about drugs and the effect to those who use drugs. He pointed out the dangers people face when they begin to experiment with drugs and how individuals may lose control of their lives, and become dependent on drugs. Mr. Keever believes that the Lord should be the controller of our lives and our dependence should be only on Him who created us.

Mr. Keever, thank you for sharing your time and knowledge with us.

Bobby R. Taylor
Director of Child Care

GOING TO CRAGMONT

Six youth from the Children's Home left for the General Youth Conference at Cragmont, Black Mountain, North Carolina, June 13, 1983. Several of the youth have attended camp before, but two have never had the opportunity. We know it will be a meaningful experience for each youth.

Shayne, Angie, Ronnie, Crystal, and Mark. Not pictured—Donna.

Also, we would like to thank those who contributed towards sending a child to camp. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Bobby R. Taylor
Director of Child Care

1983 GRADUATE

Ann

Ann was one of our 1983 graduates. She was a sixth grade graduate from Middlesex Elementary School. Ann will enter the seventh grade at Southern Nash Junior High School in the fall. We are very proud of Ann and her accomplishments.

HOMECOMING 1983

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home would like to announce that the weekend of July 9, 10, will be Homecoming weekend for our alumni. All former children and employees, along with their families, are cordially invited to return to campus and enjoy a reunion.

The weekend will officially begin at noon on Saturday and extend through Sunday. The Alumni Homecoming Committee has planned various activities for the weekend. Sleeping accommodations will be provided on campus by the Home.

The Annual Alumni Business Meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m., Sunday, July 10, in Memorial Chapel Church, located on the campus.

The children who currently reside on campus will be away during this weekend, so the campus will be all yours. Come and enjoy yourself!!!

NO BAPTIST

Due to our policy of printing only 48 issues a year, there will not be a Free Will Baptist paper dated June 29. The next issue will be dated July 6.

ATTENTION

All Free Will Baptist Bookstores—Ayden, Smithfield, New Bern, Wilson, Kinston, and Whiteville, will close June 30 for the yearly inventory.

Dot Crouch

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. L. E. Styron wishes to announce that he is available to pastor a church, preferably in the eastern part of North Carolina. Any church who is in need of a pastor and is interested in his services may contact him at: 1020 Broad Creek Road, New Bern, North Carolina or by calling 637-6774.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

by W. Burkette Raper, President

Last fall Mount Olive College sold a limited number of bonds for the financing of College Hall, a $3 million physical education-athletic-convention center. These bonds were purchased rapidly and a number of people who planned to participate in the bond program had to be turned away. At that time, the College announced that there would be another investment opportunity later. That time is now.

The construction of College Hall is significantly ahead of schedule. It now appears that the building will be turned over to the College in January, 1984, rather than May as previously projected.

To complete this project, the Board of Trustees has authorized the College to secure the additional financing from individuals and churches. Approximately $310,000 will be needed to cover the remaining cost of construction and an additional $290,000 for equipment and furniture, including the hardwood floor, bleachers, lockers, backstops, floor coverings, classroom and office furniture, seating for conventions and a public address system.

Rate of Return on Investment

The College will pay interest at 10.5% for loans from one through five years and 11% for loans from 5½ through eight years. Loans may be in any amount from $500 up.

Investors will have an option between receiving their interest semi-annually or letting it compound. (**Compound** interest is restricted to investments with a minimum period of 3½ years and is illustrated on the growth chart below.)

Investments may be made any time between now and February 29, 1984. Interest will be paid from the date of deposit.

COMPOUND INTEREST GROWTH CHART
Compounded Each Six Months
AMOUNT INVESTED

	Year	$10,000	$5,000	$1,000	$500
	3½	14,307.20	7,153.60	1,430.72	715.36
	4	15,058.33	7,529.17	1,505.83	752.92
10.5%	4½	15,848.89	7,924.45	1,584.89	792.45
	5	16,680.96	8,340.48	1,668.10	834.05
	5½	18,020.92	9,010.46	1,802.09	901.05
	6	19,012.08	9,506.03	1,901.21	950.60
	6½	20,057.74	10,028.87	2,005.77	1,002.89
11 %	7	21,160.92	10,580.46	2,116.09	1,058.05
	7½	22,324.77	11,162.38	2,232.48	1,116.24
	8	23,552.63	11,776.31	2,355.26	1,177.63

Expression of Interest

I am (we are) interested in an investment with Mount Olive College for the College Hall project. Please send full information.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: Home _____ Business _____

Tentative amount of investment: $_____

Length of investment _____ (years: one to eight years)

Compound or Simple interest _____

Date funds will be available._____

Mail To: President W. Burkette Raper
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365
Telephone: 919/658-2502

For June 26

DEBORAH: SUPPORTER AND LEADER

Lesson Text: Judges 4:4-9, 14-16
Memory Verse: Judges 4:8

"Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8). "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations" (Matthew 28:19). What a tremendous challenge Jesus gave to His disciples! The Book of Acts and the letters of Paul reflect the fervor with which the disciples responded to that challenge. They also testify to the great success that crowned their efforts. First in Jerusalem, then in Judea and Samaria, the message of the Kingdom of God went forth. It continued on to distant cities, even those that had been strongholds of paganism. Ephesus, Corinth, even Rome responded to the message of salvation.

And how was this great success attained? First, it came through the presence and power of the Christ. Second, there was wide involvement on the part of the early Christians. Third, there were leaders equipped to devote their entire energies to the cause of Christ.

Today Christ continues to be with His people. Today there is a renewal of evangelistic zeal. And today leaders are available. It is appropriate, therefore, that we concern ourselves today with the very important matter of leadership in the cause of our Lord.

A period in the history of Israel when leadership was sorely needed forms the background for today's study. Joshua had succeeded in capturing the Land of Canaan, but some fortified cities and other pockets of native resistance still remained (Judges 1:19-36). Before his death Joshua had warned his people, "If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you" (Joshua 24:20).

In spite of the warning, after the death of Joshua and his contemporaries "there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD . . . and they forsook the LORD God of their fathers . . . and followed other gods" (Judges 2:10-12). To discipline Israel and to bring the people back to their senses, God "handed them over to raiders who plundered them" (Judges 2:14, *New International Version).*

All through the period of the judges, the above cycle was repeated. After each deliverance from oppression the people would be faithful for a while, but then lapse again into evil. Obviously, what the nation needed was *constant leadership* of a high caliber. In any case, it is encouraging for us to know that when they did turn to the Lord, God provided leaders.

One such is the subject of our study today. Israel was in dire circumstances. This time it was the remaining Canaanites themselves who were the oppressors. Sisera, the commander-in-chief of the enemy forces, had nine hundred chariots and a "multitude" of soldiers. Jabin, king of Canaan, with such a force at his disposal, was able to oppress the Children of Israel for twenty years (4:3). But the people cried to God for help, and He responded by raising up another to bring victory. Only this time the judge and deliverer was a woman—Deborah, a truly devoted leader for God.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

For July 3

JEPHTHAH: ZEAL WITHOUT WISDOM

Lesson Text: Judges 11:7-10, 29-35
Memory Verse: Proverbs 14:12

A team without enthusiasm will win few ball games. A salesman without some excitement about his product will make few sales. A political leader without positive fervor in his proposals will gain few followers. By the same rule, few persons will be influenced for Christ by apathetic Christians. Of course, we must guard against arrogance and an overbearing attitude. They only serve to make us obnoxious. But unless one is zealous in his outlook and in his life-style as a Christian, he cannot hope to arouse the interest of others.

The Apostle Paul knew this. He was excited about the good news that is in Christ. "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ," he wrote, "for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" (Romans 1:16). He admonished the Christians in Rome to be "fervent in spirit; serving the Lord" (12:11). In the same verse he urged that they "never be lacking in zeal" *(New International Version).* Let us be Christians who are enthusiastic! Let a church or a class demonstrate some zest in worship and in life. Then others will take notice and will be interested to learn the reason for such enthusiasm and zeal.

The word *enthusiasm* comes from a Greek word meaning "God-insideness." Literally, it means a state of being in which the Spirit of God is actively at work within the individual. Is this not what being Christian is all about—God working in us

and through us those things that are good and pure and wholesome? "Zealous of good works" is the way Paul describes it (Titus 2:14). The lukewarm Christian is unappetizing (Revelation 3:16). There is a great need for zeal in the work of the Lord.

Let us note, however, that Paul not only exhorted the brethren at Rome to be fervent in spirit, he also cautioned them about certain persons who had "a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge" (Romans 10:2). Such persons as these can do more harm than good. They are certain that their zeal is a service to God when in reality it may be completely out of harmony with the purpose of God. Such zeal may be only the gratifying of an overweening pride. We hope that Thomas Fuller was wrong when he wrote, years ago, "Zeal is fit only for wise men, but is found mostly in fools."

Without doubt, some highly religious people are very zealous in misdirected ways. There have been many followers of Christ who have not possessed His true spirit and who have spoken and acted without wisdom.

Our lesson today is about Jephthah, another of the judges of the Old Testament. His zeal for the cause to which he was called is evident. Also evident is the fact that his zeal led him to make a rash promise, a promise to God certainly not in keeping with the nature of God, and a promise that he would live to regret.

Following Deborah, whom we studied last week, several judges ruled in Israel. In time the people of Israel "did evil again in the sight of the Lord," and once again God "sold them" into the hands of their enemies. This time the oppressors were the Philistines in Palestine west of the Jordan, and the Ammonites east of the Jordan. The eastern territory was occupied by the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of the tribe of Manasseh. For eighteen years these tribes were oppressed by Ammon. Then the enemy even crossed over the Jordan "to fight also against Judah, and against Benjamin, and against the house of Ephraim; so that Israel was sore distressed" (Judges 10:6-9).

As in times past, again the people cried out to God. "Go and cry unto the gods which ye have chosen"; God replied, "let them deliver you in the time of your tribulation" (v. 14). However, the people confessed that they had sinned, and again God had compassion on them. He would raise up Jephthah to be their deliverer.

Jephthah was an illegitimate child, the son of a harlot. Evidently he enjoyed the hospitality of his father's house until other children were born and grew to maturity. Then he was driven out by his half-brothers, disinherited, and forced to shift for himself. He gathered around him a band of "vain men" (11:3) or "worthless fellows" *(New American Standard Bible)*. Nothing more is told of his activities as leader of this group. It is presumed that he was occupied in making raids against Ammonite villages and caravans. In any case, it seems that he gained quite a reputation as a warrior, for the elders of Israel sought him out and asked him to become their leader against the enemy.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

Cragmont

CONTRIBUTIONS
May 1983
RECEIPTS

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE	
Malachi's Chapel	$ 100.00
Albemarle Union Meeting	18.65
Union Chapel	29.33
Total	$ 147.98
CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE	
Saint Paul	$ 75.00
Total	$ 75.00
CENTRAL CONFERENCE	
Hull Road	$ 200.00
Owen's Chapel	50.00
Rose Hill	50.00
Black Jack	106.07
Edgewood	90.00
Greenville Christian Service Woman's Auxiliary	10.00
Williamston, First	71.03
Ormondsville YFA	100.00
Friendship Sunday School	25.00
Reedy Branch	11.00
Willing Workers (Greenville)	40.00
Total	$ 753.10
EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Smith's New Home	$ 150.00
Deep Run	168.00
Westside	150.00
Warden's Grove	29.39
Christian Chapel	100.00
Third Eastern District Youth	25.00
May's Chapel	100.00
Total	$ 722.39
WESTERN CONFERENCE	
Piney Grove	$ 238.21
Sherron Acres	175.00
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Wilson, First	375.00
Unity	200.00
Stony Hill	50.00
Flood's Chapel	5.00
Milbournie	39.50
Free Union (Spring Hope)	50.00
Pleasant Grove (Pikeville)	873.00
Total	$ 2,105.71
OTHERS	
Saint Cloud, Florida (First)	$ 5.00
North Carolina State Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary	2,085.08
Friendship League	60.00
Anonymous	500.00
Total	$ 2,650.08
General Fund	$ 3,411.18
Building Fund	3,043.08
Cragmont Club	1,152.50
Memorial	50.00
Store	1,660.00
Conference and Retreat	11,696.75
Miscellaneous	13,764.25
Total	$34,788.76
MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS	
From Southern National Bank for construction of Softball Field	$10,000.00
From North Carolina State Free Will Baptist Youth Convention for completion of ball field	3,764.25
Total	$13,764.25

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries	$ 3,165.81
Utilities	955.81
Food	1,355.40
Sundry Supplies	1,119.25
Office Supplies	637.15
Store	3,870.01
Taxes	1,295.80
Insurance	609.35
Maintenance and Repairs	2,807.09

(Continued on Page 15)

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

Scripture Reading—Jonah

OFFERINGS FOR BAAL

Smouldering revival fires were beginning to glow with white-hot intensity in a Southern church. God's power was upon the visiting evangelist and souls were being saved. Backslidden, worldly Christians were turning from their evil ways to God.

A unique feature of the services was that at the front of the church, in view of everyone, a large basket was placed. Above it was a placard on which was printed in large letters: OFFERINGS FOR BAAL. As God's Spirit convicted His children of their sins, they would write them on pieces of paper, read aloud what was written thereon, and then place the paper in the basket. Some wrote pride, covetousness, envy, malice, hatred, unforgiveness, prayerlessness, unfaithfulness to God and His church, backbiting, slander, lying, and other foul sins of the spirit or disposition. Others brought unused portions of plugs of tobacco and packages of cigarettes.

Oh, that such a moving of God's Spirit were evidenced in all churches, with resultant cleaning up of lives and victorious living! Then we would have a Heaven-sent, Holy Ghost empowered revival of the old-time religion, and we would experience a spiritual awakening such as the present generation has never witnessed.

God has but one recipe for revival: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).

MONDAY, JUNE 27

Scripture Reading—Micah 1-4

WHY THERE WAS NO REVIVAL

Henry Morehouse, a young minister, was greatly used of God to bring souls to Christ. He preached with great power in revivals in England and America. In one of his meetings, however, everything was at a standstill. He gave himself to earnest prayer. "O God," he implored, "why am I not preaching with unction and power? Why are the people so unresponsive? Why are souls not being saved?"

God gave him the answer to his question as he walked down a street. On a billboard he read some flattering words about himself: "Hear the most famous of all British preachers—Henry Morehouse!" God seemed to say to him, "That's why there is no revival." He went immediately to those in charge of the meeting and said, "No wonder we can't have a revival. No wonder the Holy Spirit cannot work. You have advertised me as the greatest this and the greatest that."

The Spirit is grieved because we have not magnified the Lord Jesus Christ, and ascribed all glory to His mighty name. He is the wonderful One.

TUESDAY, JUNE 28

Scripture Reading—Micah 5-7

WHERE'S THE REVIVAL?

Years ago God gave a great revival to the Welsh people who got right with God and with one another. Many were converted. Those coming from afar to the meetings would inquire of the policemen, "Where's the revival?" Snapping to attention, and with a glow on their faces, they would reply, as they pointed to their hearts, "Ah, the revival is here!" That is where the revival we need, *must* start—in your heart and in *my* heart. Not until God's children sincerely pray, "Create in *me* a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within *me,*" will we have that sleepless, solicitous concern for the lost and perishing ones about us. Draw a circle, place yourself in that circle, and as you stand there, with sorrow of heart, pray this prayer, "O, God, send a revival, and let it start in this circle!" Then the revival will be on!

How impotent are movements to heal the nation's hurts which exclude God, and fail to reckon with man's sinfulness and need of the Saviour!

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

Scripture Reading—Nahum, Habbakkuk

CLOGGED CHANNELS!

It is my firm conviction, as deepseated as my faith in God, that there is one reason why we are not having great victories and that is because the channels of our lives are clogged. My Bible still says that the fervent, effectual prayer of a righteous man availeth much. I do not care what the circumstances are. If the evangelist, if the pastor, if half a dozen people in the church are right with God, you will have some kind of victory . . . . I used to think that in order to have a revival we had to have every person in the church right. I used to scold, and nag, and drive, and criticize Christians, just beat them over the head. But I have found out that not even God can revive everybody in a church.

Some of them have never been "vived" and they cannot be revived. They have nothing to revive.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30

Scripture Reading—Zephaniah, Haggai

NEEDED—A GREAT CRISIS

Our time suffers from moral uncertainty. We have plenty of levity but little happiness. There is searching for fun but no real joy. There is plenty of laughter but it is cruel and in bad taste. We are zealous for democracy and weak in worship. There is boasting over muscular strength but it is brutal in application. We have everything but possess nothing. We seek knowledge but lack understanding. There is plenty of struggle upward but we continue to sink lower. Our civilization needs the panic of a great crisis to shock it out of its Pharisaism.

We must have a rebirth of moral conviction in order to fulfill the purpose of our being.

FRIDAY, JULY 1

Scripture Reading—Zechariah 1-7

BARELY SAVED!

One time, Dr. R. E. Neighbour preached a sermon on the possibility of God's children being saved "so as by fire" and receiving no rewards when they stand before Christ. After the service, the minister walked home with a wealthy businessman who said, "I didn't like that sermon about the possibility of some Christians barely entering Heaven and not receiving any rewards for faithful service. Why, I will be satisfied if I just get inside of Heaven and can lean against its walls! At that moment the two reached the palatial home of the wealthy businessman. It was filled with all the luxuries that money could buy. How different was the wealthy man's thinking about his earthly home and his thinking about his heavenly home.

Let us aspire to enter glory abundantly and triumphantly. Peter said, "For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 1:11).

SATURDAY, JULY 2

Scripture Reading—Zechariah 8-14

REWARDED FOR TRYING

Opening a window of his fifth-story room, a minister in London heard some beautiful singing below. A blind man stood on the street corner, singing and holding out a badly worn hat to passers-by. Leaving his room, the minister went to the singer, spoke cheerfully to him, and put a shilling in his hat. The blind man profusely thanked the donor and said, "I'll sing a hymn—just for you!" At close range there was no melodious beauty in the blind man's voice. The minister thought, "His voice is cracked. How different were the tones which came up to me in my room higher up!"

As the minister walked away, he mused: "If his singing was sweet to me higher up, his singing must be infinitely sweeter to God, the 'high and lofty one that inhabiteth eternity!' Surely our songs and sincere efforts are glorified as they ascend to the Heavenly Father."

He rewards us for what we aspire to do for Him, even though we may fail in the effort or do it imperfectly.

SUNDAY, JULY 3

Scripture Reading—Malachi

DOES IT COUNT IF I TRY?

It was bedtime. The room of little five-year-old Julie Ann was a shambles. Books, toys, dolls and stuffed animals were strewn all over the floor. Her mother said, "Julie Ann, you know you shouldn't scatter your playthings all over your room." Julie Ann's face looked sad. Sadly she said, "Mommie, I try to keep things straight. Doesn't it even count if I try?"

God will reward us for all we sincerely try to do for Him even though we fail.

MONDAY, JULY 4

Scripture Reading—Matthew 1, 2

CROSS-BEARERS AND CROWN-WEARERS

A faithful missionary was asked: "What pay do you receive for the hardships you undergo and the sacrifices you make, living and working among these people?" The missionary took from his pocket a letter, worn with much handling, and read two sentences from it, written by a Chinese student: "But for you, I would not have known Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Every morning I kneel before God, and think of you, thank God for you and pray for you!" "That," said the missionary, "is my pay!"

Spurgeon said: "There are no crown-wearers in Heaven who were not cross-bearers on earth. Hast thou a cross, Shoulder it manfully. It is Christ's Cross and it is an honor to carry it."

(Turn the Page)

TUESDAY, JULY 5

Scripture Reading—Matthew 3, 4

A GOOD ACTION BRINGS A GOOD REWARD

Baron Rothschild was one of the richest men in the world in his day. One day he visited the studio of his artist friend, Ary Scheffer, who said, "I need a beggar to sit for a painting." "Wait until tomorrow," said Rothschild. "I'll dress as a beggar and make an excellent model." The next day, the financier appeared, dressed in rags. Just then, another friend of the artist entered the studio. He looked in pity upon the "beggar." He gave him a louis d'or—a French gold coin—which was received with thanks. Ten years later, the man who gave the coin received an order on the bank of the Rothschilds for ten thousand francs, accompanied by the following note: Sir, you one day gave a louis d'or to Baron Rothschild in the studio of Ary Scheffer. He has invested it, and made good use of it, and today he sends you the capital you entrusted to him, together with the interest it has gained.

A good action is always followed by a good reward.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5

PENNY AND THE FIFTH OF SCOTCH

J. C. Penny, the merchant prince, ran a butcher shop before his chain store empire came into being. He was told that if he gave a fifth of Scotch to the head chef in a leading hotel, the business of that hotel would be assured. This Penny did for some time. Then God convicted him of the wrong of the practice. He discontinued it and lost the hotel's business. He went broke. God, however, had "better things" for him, and, in time, he began a merchandise business which has grown into a nationwide enterprise!

For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father . . . and then he shall reward every man according to his works (Matthew 16:27).

THURSDAY, JULY 7

Scripture Reading—Matthew 6-8

GOD'S PAY

Who does God's work will get God's pay,
However long may seem the day,
However weary be the way;
Though powers and princes thunder "Nay,"
Who does God's work will get God's pay.

He does not pay as others pay,
In gold or land or raiment gay;
In goods that vanish and decay;
But God in wisdom knows a way,
And that is sure, let come what may,
Who does God's work will get God's pay.

FRIDAY, JULY 8

Scripture Reading—Matthew 9, 10

RICHES ENLARGE OR ENSLAVE US

One of God's noble laymen, a doctor, was asked what he had done during the past week. He replied, "On Monday, I preached the gospel in Brazil. Tuesday, I ministered among the Mexicans in southwest Texas. Wednesday, I operated on patients in a hospital in Africa. Thursday, I taught in a mission school in Japan. Friday, I helped to establish a new church in California. Saturday, I taught classes in our seminaries. Sunday, I distributed Bibles in Korea." The astonished questioner asked, "How could you be in so many places, doing so many different things?" "I wasn't," said the doctor with a twinkle in his eye, "for I have been busy with my patients every day. But, you see, I hold the dollars God has enabled me to earn in trust for God, and some of them have been channeled into the places of need I have mentioned."

Treasures in Heaven are laid up only as treasures on earth are laid down.

SATURDAY, JULY 9

Scripture Reading—Matthew 11—12:21

I HAVE TWO FOOTMEN

When I was in England I visited Buckingham Palace. I did not go over to see the king; I don't think he knew I was there at all; but I went there with some others and we were shown around. In going through the stables, we were shown a great coach which was used for state occasions. There was a great deal of gold on the coach, and the harness cost $150,000 in our money, I was told, and was overlaid with gold. Up behind the coach were two little seats. I asked what those little seats were for, and was told that they were for two footmen. My mind immediately went back to the Psalm, "Goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life." I said to myself, "They do not know it, but I am a king and I have two footmen."

Money is the article which may be used as a universal passport to everywhere except Heaven, and the universal provider of everything except happiness.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 9)

Endowment of the Week

THE J. C. YATES FAMILY ENDOWMENT

The Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Yates

The J. C. Yates Family Endowment was established at Mount Olive College approximately two years ago (June, 1981) by the family and friends of the Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Yates on Pastor's Appreciation Day at Saratoga Free Will Baptist Church. The endowment was established to honor them for their years of service in the ministry, which have included the pastorates of Cedar Grove and New Hope Churches in Cabarrus County, St. Mary's Church in Wilson County, Holly Springs Church in Carteret County, and Saratoga Church in Wilson County.

The endowment is a fitting memorial in that Joseph C. (Jody) Yates believes strongly in education. He himself pursued his education at Burton Institute in Charlotte and Catawba College in Salisbury after he answered the call to the ministry in 1952—after he was married and the father of two small children. He is pleased that an endowment established in his name will help provide young people with opportunities in Christian higher education at Mount Olive College.

Prior to the ministry, Mr. Yates served during World War II in the United States Navy. In 1946, when he was discharged, he joined his parents in Kannapolis, North Carolina, and there he became a member of Elwood Lane Free Will Baptist Church. His call to the ministry came six years later, and he was ordained in the Western Conference by the Revs. Fred Rivenbark, James Evans, and Paul Jenkins.

Doris Phillips Yates has always been a partner in the ministry with her husband. With him, she visits the sick and ministers to those in need of comfort. She always has something encouraging to say to both family and friends, and her door is always open to those friends who are both within and outside the church. Mrs. Yates is active in her church auxiliary, in the choir, and in youth work at Saratoga where the couple has served since April, 1979.

The Rev. and Mrs. Yates are the parents of three sons: Danny, Donnie, Dennis; and the grandparents of two grandsons and a granddaughter.

FALL SEMESTER AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

August 29—Registration and orientation for the fall semester begins Monday, August 29. The dormitories will open Sunday, August 28.

CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 6)

hours a week is enough time to adequately prepare a lesson if you have in mind a clear plan for preparation. If not, then you may spend much of your precious preparation time each week trying to figure out how to go about preparing the lesson. If you already have a definite plan for preparation, then you can start on the lesson at the outset because you know what you are going to do and how you are going to do it. Such a plan is simply practicing good stewardship of your time and energy.

Now you might be asking, "All of this is well and good, but how can I improve my method of preparation?" The next article will deal with this question.

CRAGMONT

(Continued from Page 11)

Gas	97.55
Promotional	54.29
Miscellaneous	12,399.46
Total	$28,366.97

MISCELLANEOUS

Construction of ball field	$ 8,820.00
Seeding of infield	235.00
Curtains for main building	20.00
Repay petty cash	164.52
Lease on floor machine	61.21
Payment on carpet for motel	100.00
Payment on new vacuum	191.88
Repay petty cash	77.49
Transfer to treasurer	2,000.00
Final payment on chain saw	217.00
Rent on rooms	46.80
Payment on Boylens	425.00
Tripod for camera	40.56
Total	$12,399.46

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. and Mrs. Fred Baker now have a change of address. It is P.O. Box 98, Puerto Princesa City 2901, Philippines.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

We thank you that you were willing to come to earth and share with us the weaknesses of flesh, for now we know that you understand all that we are ever called on to bear. We know that you, our God, are still able to do more than we ask or expect. So bless us, each one, not according to our deserving, but according to the riches in glory of Christ Jesus, our Lord. (And Father, we plead for unity.)

Your Concerned and Loving Child

(Portions adapted from quotes of Theodore Roosevelt, Calvin Coolidge, and Peter Marshall.)

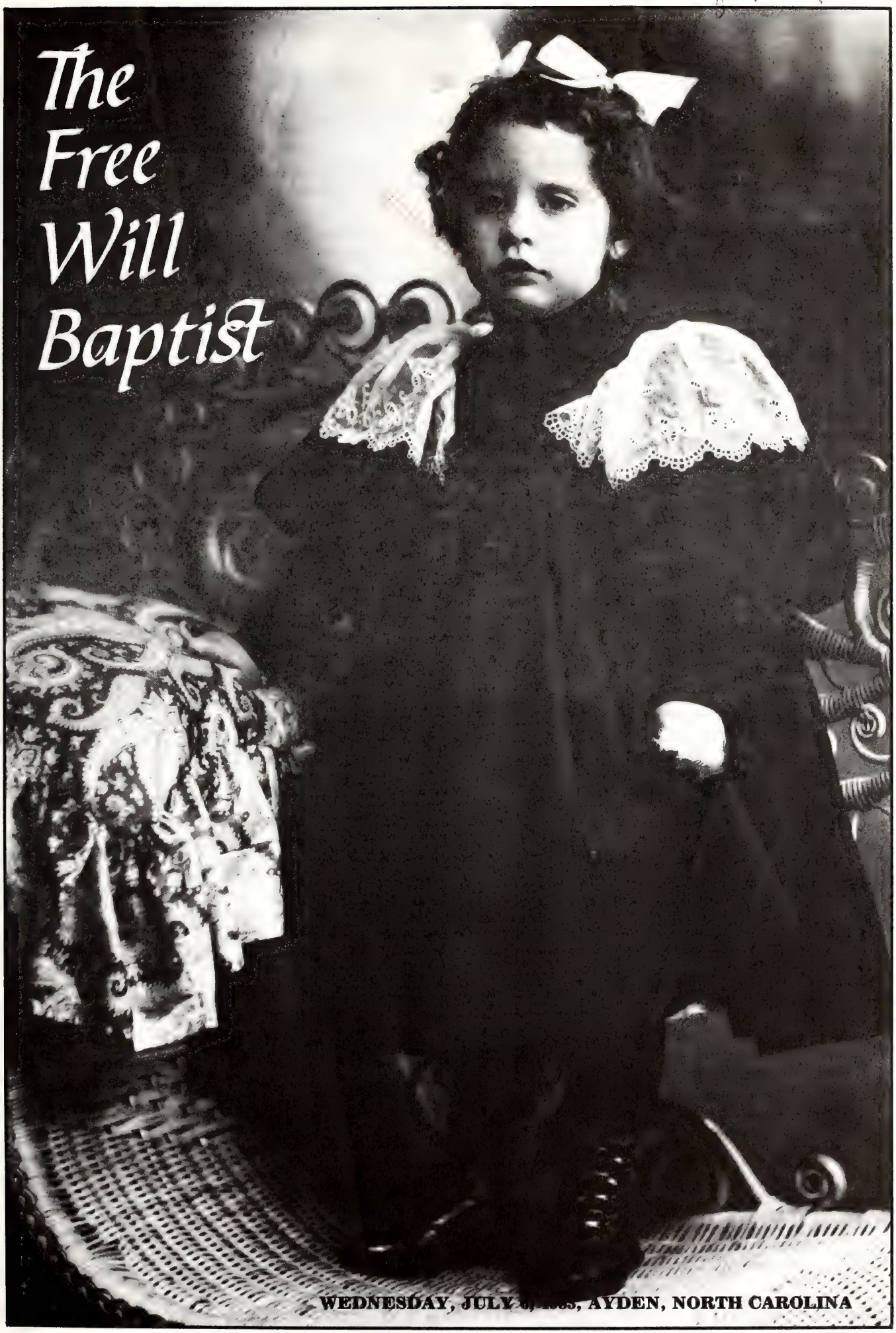
The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation is anxious to help you with any of your Sunday school or church needs. We can supply you with classroom equipment, visual aid materials, lesson commentaries, as well as church furniture, art stained and decorative glass work, fiberglass steeples and baptismal pools, pianos, organs, choir robes, and other religious merchandise. We urge you to see us for all your church needs, so we can better serve our Lord and our denomination.

Six Locations to Serve You

Ayden • New Bern • Smithfield • Wilson • Kinston • Whiteville

F857 WB

The Free Will Baptist



WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 1885, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Lambert

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Volume 98 Number 25

July 6, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Editorial

"Gimme That Old-Time Religion!"

A stroll down Memory Lane might lead us to an old country church. The congregation is engaged in a series of meetings—eventful ones, meetings where tears are shed, amens are uttered, and emotions have not yet been outlawed. The sermons are powerful and may be both loud and long—well, at least they are longer than fifteen minutes. The preacher may not possess the eloquence of Apollos, but he does have the conviction of Aquila. His message is certain: God is almighty, Jesus died for our sins, sin separates us from God, judgment is certain, eternity is long, and there are souls yet to be saved. Everyone stands to sing, "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"—and come they do; they are happy converts. All are home by early afternoon, overwhelmed by the feeling that it was good to have been in the house of the Lord.

We would have a dour time translating the present vernacular of the Church to those saints of old—and we do not want to paint their haloes brighter than they really were. We must make allowances for some "ignorance" on their part and for faults better left undiscussed. But even if they did not always understand **what** God is, they did know **that** He is and that He is the Rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. Our forefathers did not make religion their business all the time, but they did not make business their religion as we often do.

Out of this tradition has come the song "Old-Time Religion." This tune relates that "the old-time religion . . . it's good enough for me." It also talks of how this "old-time religion" was "good for the Hebrew Children, the Prophet Daniel, Paul and Silas." The song further tells how "it was good for our fathers." Do you remember how our fathers never allowed pleasure trips or picnics to carry us away on Sundays from the place where prayer was wont to be made? Our fathers were the preachers' friend and the man to whom neighbors would come when they faced difficulties. Family prayertime was never neglected and those times wove a great influence upon our lives and our faith. Our mothers, too, enjoyed this "old-time religion." Their child-like confidence made them content to trust and obey (**our** last resort).

This old-time religion also makes people "love everybody." I guess this verse helped me realize more than the rest just how much we need such a faith, for we live in an age that is cynical, nonchalant, and hard-boiled. Our cold callousness and unfeeling heartlessness cause me to believe we could do with more love. "Faith in Christ and love to all the saints" go hand in hand. Our forefathers forgot their earthly limitations and felt that they were heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ; the temporal faded and the eternal was quite real.

No amount of eloquence and elegance can compensate for a faith that would make us love everybody. Our lack of compassion and charity has caused us to become "as sounding brass and tinkling cymbals." Being devout has given way to

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

by Adrian Grubbs

Is the Sunday school a thing of the past? Organizations are designed to meet a specific need at a particular time in history. Has the Sunday school outlived its useful purpose? Sometimes we become committed to the preservation of an institution for the sake of the institution. Have we done this with the Sunday school? I think not! The need for which the Sunday school was designed to meet is still there—it will always be there as long as there are people. In the Great Commission the church is charged with the responsibility of not only winning converts but teaching them as well—teaching them to be obedient disciples of Christ our Lord.

People change, cultures change, societies change, but the basic needs of people remain essentially the same. Teaching methods change in order to teach more effectively. The organizational structure may change from time to time to be more functional. But the principles of Christian Education remain basically the same. The Sunday school has proven to be adaptable to a changing world but committed to its unchanging goals.

The ministry of the Sunday school in the church is vital, definite, and monumental. The church would soon cease to be the church without an effective Christian education program. Dedicated people are required to keep the Sunday school organized, staffed and functioning. Creative persons are necessary for designing curricula and producing literature. Leaders must be committed to Christian education, and teachers must be continually involved in training to keep their skills sharp and their goals clearly in focus.

Each week this month we will have essays on Christian education in the Sunday school. It is our hope and prayer that these articles will be helpful to you in your Sunday school.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH: SEPARATE ORGANIZATIONS OR COOPERATIVE UNIT?

by De Wayne Eakes

In cooperation with the State Sunday School Convention and the Free Will Baptist Press I have been given the privilege of sharing my convictions on this subject. The intent of this article is to explore the present and the proper relationship of the Sunday school and the church.

The first question to be addressed is, is the Sunday school a separate organization from the church or are the two one cooperative and complementary unit? Upon coming to my present pastorate I discovered that the Sunday school and church operated as completely separate units. The Sunday school had a completely separate budget, a separate bank account, appointed a separate nominating committee each year and even paid a quarterly payment to the church treasury to take care of the Sunday school's share of the utility bills. Also, the Sunday school had no representation on the general board of the church. This system had been in operation for many years and changing it was a slow process. However, after some years the change was effected. A unified budget was adopted combining the Sunday school and church treasuries; teacher installation and dedication services are included on the day we dedicate other church officers; and due to our Sunday school superintendent's attending the State Sunday School Convention Workshop, a Board of Christian Education was elected and given equal status on the church's general board with the deacons and trustees. The arrangement has worked much better than the previous system. It helps the Sunday school and church function more efficiently and effectively as a unit instead of two separate organizations. I believe Paul's sentiments in 1 Corinthians 14:26, 40 apply at this point, ". . . Let all things be done unto edifying . . . . Let all things be done decently and in order." Also, I believe that the Sunday school will be more effective if the entire church is involved in its work instead of just the teachers and administrative officers of the church. In his book, *The Teaching Ministry of the Church,* James D. Smart makes the following statement on page 113:

> It is the church that has the responsibility of education—the whole church, not just a few specially chosen teachers. The primary educational force, which forms the background for all else that is said and done, is the impact of the total church upon the lives of the children, youth and adults . . . It is utter folly for church members to think that they have no responsibility for Christian education because they hold no office in the church school. The teachers and officers are merely their representatives, acting on their behalf, and their work will be

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doomed to failure if their witness on behalf of the Christian faith in church school is contradicted by the witness of the adult congregation in the community.

This author affirms the necessity of the Sunday school and church operating as one cooperative unit. The old adage, "don't let your right hand know what your left hand is doing," certainly does not apply to the relationship between the church and Sunday school. There are several very good reasons as to why the Sunday school and the church must be unified in their efforts.

One reason is that it is simpler and more practical. Having one treasurer, one set of books and one checking account is more practical than having two separate systems. Also, it eliminates duplication of efforts (i.e., recruiting new members, visiting delinquent members, etc.).

Another important argument for a unified relationship between the Sunday school and church is that the majority of church members come from the Sunday school. In his book, *Sunday School Success,* Clarence H. Benson reports: "A conservative estimate indicates that 75 percent of the members of all denominations come from Sunday school; 85 percent of all church workers, and 95 percent of all ministers and missionaries were Sunday school pupils." The strength of the church is the Sunday school.

It is an established fact that great Sunday schools build great churches. A church that is large with a small, dying or atrophying Sunday school program is just one generation (18-22 years) away from serious problems. On the other hand a small church with a large, growing, dynamic Sunday school has bright prospects for the future. Church growth people recognize that the best way to grow a strong stable church is by growing a strong, vital Sunday school.

A fourth reason for a strong cooperative element between Sunday school and church is a lesson Foreign Missions has long since learned. Early Foreign Missions efforts were primarily devoted to the evangelizing of adults with children being incorporated incidentally. Often apparent success was short-lived. Then missionaries began to give attention to boys and girls as well as adults. Sunday schools, Bible institutes and other teaching ministries were engaged in, and permanent and substantial progress began to be made. That principle applies to the Sunday school in the old, established traditional churches as well as Home/Foreign Missions work.

Finally it is a truth to say that "the church of tomorrow can be seen in the Sunday school of today."

Sunday school success determines the size and the character of the church. Shortcomings in church members are often the result of neglect or absence of training in Sunday school . . . As the church teaches and trains along with its worship and service, it revolutionizes the character of its membership. It has been said that the Sunday school of today is the church of today. Let the church take its Sunday school seriously, and it will become a bigger, better church—(Ibid).

The Sunday school should be seen as an integral part of the church, not just as the "teaching arm" of the church. The Sunday school is not a branch of the church, it is a part of the main trunk of the church, supplying its very life blood. The following are four brief statements as to why the previous sentence is true. The Sunday school provides for education in the Scriptures, the written Word of God. Apart from the Scriptures we could not rightly know what the church is. Second, Christian education as provided in the good Sunday school provides a step by step growth into the life of the church and with God in worship. The third supporting statement is that Christian education through a good Sunday school program provides for the growth (nurture) of the individual into a longer life that is possible in the fellowship of the church. Finally, Christian Education in the good Sunday school provides for growth in the church of today and it provides a connection with the church in ages past and the church in the future.

The business/purpose of the Sunday school and church is the same. The goals are identical; we simply approach the task in different ways. The Sunday school is primarily didactic in its approach. The church is more exhortative and inspirational in its approach. The goal of the two is the same. We are to call people to salvation, to discipleship and to service. We are to give people a challenge, nurture them and awaken them to various avenues of personal spiritual growth and service.

The task we have is great! If we can successfully unite our Sunday schools and churches in our efforts, we will find our combined strength to be greater than our individual strengths applied separately as Sunday school and church. Together we can meet the challenges of providing Christian nurture in an increasingly secular society. This will also assure us of a strong church in the future generations. The church provides the avenues of service which the Sunday school teaches. This is "discipling" the people that are won to Christ.

CONVERSION AND NURTURE: BEING BORN AND GROWING UP

by Bass Mitchell

Countless articles and sermons have been based on the Great Commission in Matthew 28:19, 20. Many of the ones I have read and heard have tended to emphasize only one part of it, that is, evangelism. What is often ignored or mentioned only in passing is the second part of it, which says to "teach them to observe all that I have commanded you." This illustrates a basic failure in the church, that is, so much emphasis can be placed on getting persons born into the kingdom that we lose sight of the equal need to help them grow up!

Horace Bushnell, minister and theologian of the past century, said of the church of his day that "Conversion is nearly everything with us." Could the same thing be said of our church? Do we not tend to think that once a person is converted that our responsibility ends? Do we not in practice see Christian nurture and growth as options rather than necessities? "We seek to lead people to 'accept Christ as Saviour.' After an individual has done this, we urge him to grow in the Christian life. This practice in our churches gives the impression that whether the new convert grows or not is optional with him. Many evidently choose not to grow."[1] If this is not true, then how is it that persons can join the church without in the same action joining the Sunday school? For our Lord, growth in discipleship was not an option but a command! We have failed to obey it when the initial conversion experience becomes almost "everything with us."

When a child is born, do the responsibilities of the parents end? Birth is not an end, but a beginning. Birth, in fact, and my male bias is showing, may be the easiest part. After nine months, the discomfort and pain will be over, for the child will be born. But afterwards, there begins a long process of nurture, training, listening, loving, and sacrifice to help the child grow up into a mature person. To neglect this is child abuse.

Now when the church helps bring babes in Christ into God's kingdom, it is guilty of spiritual child abuse if it does not do everything it can to help those babes in Christ grow up! The church is the spiritual parents of these babes in Christ. Their birth is not the end of our responsibility but the beginning of years of nurture. Helping give them birth may be the easier part.

Robert Raines once wrote: "With one hand the church reaches out to awaken persons to decision for Christ; with the other hand the church guides persons to grow up in every way into Christ. The church is both evangelist and educator, both obstetrician and pediatrician, helping deliver those newly born in Christ and nurturing them from infancy to maturity in Christ."[2] This is stated by Paul in a little different way. He says, "We are not meant to remain as children at the mercy of every chance wind of teaching . . . But we are meant to hold firmly to the truth in love, and to grow up in every way into Christ, the head . . . until . . . we arrive at real maturity—that measure of development which is meant by the 'fullness of Christ' " (Phillips Translation of Ephesians 4:14, 15). In the verses preceding these Paul notes that God gives gifts or abilities to the church leaders to help the saints do just this—grow up in Christ.

Where do we go from here? We must begin by recommitting ourselves to the nurturing ministry. We can no longer consider it an option. Each of us must come to see that we as individuals need Christian nurture and greater maturity in Christ. Therefore, we will participate in the learning opportunities the church provides for us. We will explore new ways that we can improve the quality of this vital ministry. Also, we should make it clear to every person who seeks to become a member of the Free Will Baptist Church that he or she is joining the Sunday school as well. We can set up new members' classes to better introduce new converts to the Christian faith, to the history and doctrine of Free Will Baptists, to the polity and programs of our church, and to what it means to be a Christian. Also, we can develop a church training program which is designed to "equip the saints for the work of ministry" (Ephesians 4:12). We could also require of every body of believers who seek to organize into a Free Will Baptist Church that they have a Board of Christian Education as a part of their basic organization. This would be an expression of our conviction that Christian nurture is a vital part of the ministry of the church and not an option. Also, there is much we can do to provide training opportunities for our Christian education workers. How much training we provide for our Sunday school officers and teachers is an indication of how committed we are to the nurturing ministry. We could also expect of our ordained ministers that teaching be an important part of their responsibility. It seems to this writer that the teaching ministry has been subordinated to the preaching ministry. How much time do we ministers devote to the teaching ministry of the church? We need to follow the example of our Lord, who was both the ideal preacher and teacher.

The point of this article is not to suggest that we should either concentrate on conversion

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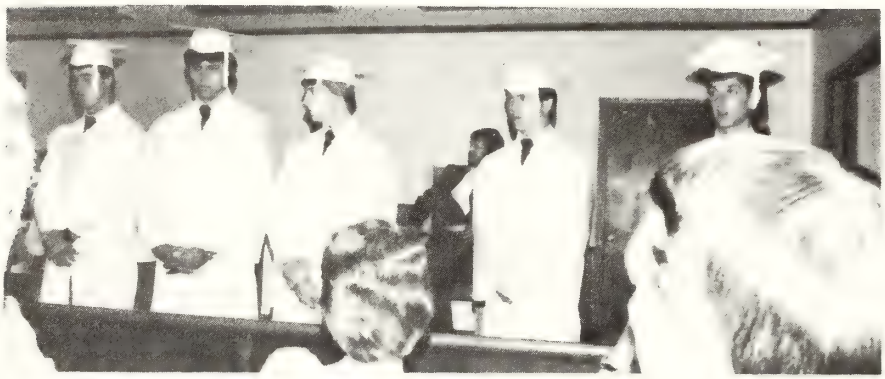
HONOR THE SENIORS DAY AT WESTSIDE CHURCH



Standing, facing congregation—left to right: Steve Lovick, Tad Rhodes, Joe Spence, Todd Ipock, and Martin Jones.

Sunday, June 5, was 'Honor the Seniors Day" at Westside Church, 1205 Lynn Drive, Kinston. There were five young men who graduated from Kinston High School. They were honored at a breakfast at the Holiday Inn by the pastor and deacons of the church. Those present for the occasion were honorees, Martin Jones, Tad Rhodes, Steve Lovick, Joe Spence and Todd Ipock; as well as the pastor, the Rev. Wayne King; deacons, Jack Everett, Dempsey Parks, Treasure Rhodes, Mac Lovick; and Sunday school superintendent, James Jones. A devotional and words of wisdom were shared by the pastor and deacons.

At the 11 a.m. worship service, the graduating seniors marched into the sanctuary as the congregation sang the first hymn, "Lead On O King Eternal," attired in their caps and gowns. The pastor presented a personalized Bible to each graduate from the church as Gray Southerland, YFA sponsor, read each graduate's high school accomplishments. An inspirational book, *Apples of Gold,* was given to Mrs. Debbie Braxton Norville, a graduate of East Carolina University, who now resides in Creedmoor, North Carolina.

The message to the seniors, entitled "Monuments or Wells?" was taken from incidences in the lives of Absalom and Jacob. Graduates were challenged, rather than living for self, to "dig a well" for the refreshment and blessing of others in the course of their lives.

POWHATAN CHURCH THANKS THE REV. ATLAS HOGG

The members of Powhatan Church of Route 2, Clayton, North Carolina, express their love and appreciation to Brother Atlas Hogg for the nine months of pastoral work, while they were looking for a pastor.

Mr. Hogg fulfilled all duties of a pastor very well. He carried the elderly to the doctor and visited the sick in the hospitals. He and his wife, Irene, cut the grass, bought grass seeds and sowed them in the yard, while Mr. Dwight Stephenson had heart surgery and vascular surgery.

Each week the treasurer of the church wrote Mr. Hogg a small check for his services, which he endorsed and gave back to the church. He would not accept one penny for those nine months of faithful work. He did it out of love for his church and his Lord.

Many Free Will Baptists know of Mr. Hogg's bout with cancer, but the Lord saw fit to arrest this problem, for which everyone is very thankful. Mr. Hogg got tired, but he kept going for the Lord. It can be said to all churches that if you have a minister member in your church, please do not be jealous of him, but love him and give him the opportunity to teach and work for the Lord in your church. He will not take anything away from the pastor, but will help where he can.

Robert's Grove Names Man of Year

Mr. Sam Barefoot

On February 13, 1982, a Layman's League was formed at Robert's Grove Church, near Dunn. They meet every fourth Sunday morning for a program and fellowship breakfast.

At a recent meeting a committee was appointed to select a "Man of the Year" in the League. The man they chose has been a great asset to the League—faithful in attendance, faithful to the church, and seeing that a speaker was available for each meeting. He is a very outstanding man in the community—being a friend in deed to any in need.

During Sunday school on June 19, 1983, Mr. Billy Tew, Layman's League president,

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EASTER DEDICATION

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service

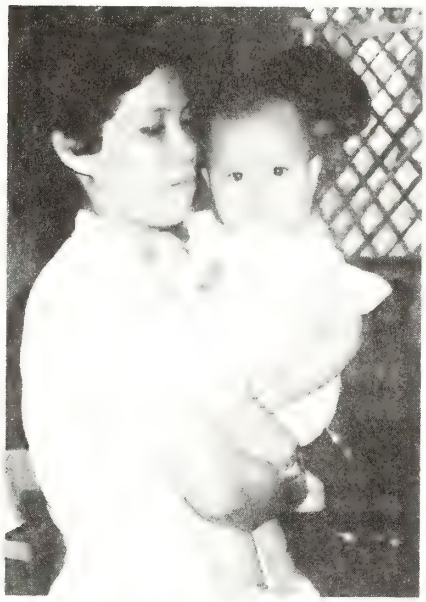
Easter Sunday, the day we celebrate the Resurrection of our Living Lord. Yes, He lives! And He gives us the opportunity to live more abundantly.

This past Easter, April 3, 1983, was a very special one for us. For over a month we prayed and studied over the real meaning of the Resurrection. I would often wake at 5 a.m. just to jog at the high school track and to watch the sunrise as I enjoyed my daily devotions in the grandstand. My family often joined me on these occasions. Together we prepared for the first City-wide Easter Sunrise Service ever held in Puerto Princesa City. Somehow, I had been chosen to speak on this occasion.

We began preparing the stage before 5 that morning. Over 400 people filled the stands. Beautiful hymns of praise rang out. Introductions were made. Prayers were offered up. Then God allowed me the wonderful opportunity to share the gospel of the Son. Souls were saved and lives were touched. Perhaps it was I who received the greater blessing. For you see it was I whom the Holy Spirit was using as a vessel to pour out His grace to others. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for choosing me as your spokesman!

Immediately after the Sunrise service we went to the dedication of Canigaran Free Will Baptist Church's new building. Again, I was privileged to be the speaker. "Solomon's Dedication of the Temple and God's Covenant to the Faithful" served as my topic.

Another blessed event came at the end of the service as we commissioned licensed Pastor Antonio M. Samones Jr. and his family to establish a Free Will Baptist Church in the west coast community of Gawid. Pastor Samones had served as interim pastor of Canigaran since January. Canigaran is his home church.



The Samones Family

The day was completed by the observance of the Lord's Supper and Washing of the Saint's Feet. Easter Sunday, the greatest day of celebration in the history of the church, had been an experience we will not soon forget.

While the world marches on around us, seemingly drawing farther and farther away from Christ, Christ is ever drawing

(Turn the Page)

Canigaran Free Will Baptist Church

those of us who know Him closer to His precious side.

May every day bring you closer to the realization of His plan and purpose for your life. The King of kings and Lord of lords is risen and reigns today in the hearts and lives of those who have been born-again by His Spirit.

The overshadowing sadness of this day is not the death of Jesus on the Cross, but it is the death of countless millions who have never heard or accepted the salvation offered by His sacrifice. May we, His people, allow Him to so control our lives in such a way that many of those who are lost may not have to miss next year's celebration.

Charles Barnard

Cragmont

GROUP FROM PINEY GROVE CHURCH VISITS

A wonderful thing took place Memorial Day Weekend at Cragmont Assembly. We had a group from Piney Grove Church near Kenly. What made this weekend so great was that only 15 of these 80 fine people had been to Cragmont before. The rest had only heard of Cragmont through the years and really did not know what Cragmont is. Needless to say, they were impressed with our facilities in the mountains of North Carolina. A common statement made that weekend was "I did not realize that our denomination had such a place as this." This seems to be the case with so many of our churches. I have found that I can do a better job of public relations with our people by getting them to Cragmont. Showing slides or pictures of Cragmont to people who have never been to groups at Cragmont for a few days can't compare with being here and asking questions.

There is a tremendous ministry going on at Cragmont, not just for our young people but for all ages. Cragmont is a mission station as people—young and old—are being won to Christ. Yes, people are won to Christ, they do rededicate their lives while here, they are taught the ways of Christ while here. It is not all just fun and games. There is a ministry going on, one in which I am proud to be taking part.

Piney Grove Church near Kenly came to understand that Cragmont is worthy of its support financially and of their time spent in prayer.

If we could have more of our churches to come and spend time here, they too would be convinced that Cragmont has a very important place in the life of our denomination. I know that this must be true because as our denomination you saw fit to give $14,000 more in 1982 than in 1981. I hope that in some way through these words that you are convinced that God is working through Cragmont and that those of you who do not support us will do so in the future. We must have your support and if you believe in Cragmont as I do, as others have come to believe, then you will count it worthy of your support.

If you remember, last year Cragmont Assembly held its first softball tournament. The purpose of this tournament was to raise funds for Cragmont.

We are proud to announce that the "Second Annual Cragmont Defender Softball Tournament" will take place September 16, 17, 1983, at Stantonsburg and Eureka, North Carolina. There will only be 16 teams to play in this tournament. Therefore, the first 16 teams to make application will play in this tournament. In order to register send your name, address, phone number and a $65 entry fee to John R. Watson, Route 1, Box 522, Wilson, North Carolina 27893; phone, 237-8472.

If you need any other information, please contact Mr. Watson. Get your team together and register. You'll be glad you did.

IN MEMORY OF MRS. RUTHIE JONES HOWARD

Ruthie was born October 16, 1922. On November 19, 1949, she married William H. (John) Howard and to this union were born two daughters and one son. On July 10, 1982, God in His infinite wisdom and mercy saw fit to pick another red rose to adorn His Great White Throne, so He called home Ruthie J. Howard of Pink Hill, North Carolina. Funeral services were conducted by her pastor, the Rev. Ed Miles, and her former pastor, the Rev. Norman Ard.

Ruthie was a member of the Christian Chapel Church. She was a member of the Woman's Auxiliary and over the years held many different offices, serving well in each job capacity. As teacher of the Teenage Sunday School Class for the past number of years, she was always doing her best to help mold the lives of the young men and women she taught. She was a member of the church building committee, the church choir, and she had served as the church treasurer for the sixteen years prior to her death.

During the years Ruthie was a member of Christian Chapel, she saw it go through many good times and also some dark times, but her support in the welfare of the church could always be counted on. When the need arose she was always there. She served her church, her family, and her community well.

We bow in humble submission to God's will in calling her, and we know our loss is Heaven's gain. She has left this life of uncertainty, tears, and toil, but she has gone to be with

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SUMMER RECREATION DIRECTOR

Wayne Lewis

We would like to take the opportunity to welcome Wayne Lewis to the staff of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc. Wayne is a part-time employee who is our Recreation Director for the summer.

As Recreation Director, Wayne will be involved in working with the children in several recreational activities. The children are excited about having a Recreation Director and look forward to the activities and events planned for them during the summer.

Wayne is from Middlesex, North Carolina, and is a student at North Carolina State University. Welcome, Wayne!

SIXTY-THREE YEARS OF CARING A CHRISTIAN HOME FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Since the first children entered care (May 23, 1920) the Free Will Baptist Children's Home has cared for more than seven hundred-forty (740) boys and girls.

What greater ministry or reward is there than caring for and meeting the needs of children? To watch them grow and mature to their fullest God-given potential and go out into society to be a vital part of the community and world in which they live, knowing that through our ministry we have had an active part in their lives and input in their contributions to the world we live in and generations to come.

One day while traveling the disciples discussed who would be the greatest. Jesus questioned the twelve about their discussion. "And he sat down and called the twelve, and saith unto them, If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all. And he took a child, and set him in the midst of them: and when he had taken him in his arms, he said unto them, Whosoever shall receive one of such children in my name, receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me, receiveth not me, but him that sent me" (Mark 9:35-37).

Jesus, in His explanation to His disciples, made the point that the greatest would "be last of all and servant of all." This truth is not only in the spoken words of Jesus, but is the very essence of the life of Jesus. We see that His ministry was one of service to all.

While holding a child in His arms, He explained to the disciples that receiving a child was the same as receiving Him, and not only Him, but the one who had sent Him.

Free Will Baptists have been receiving and ministering to children in Jesus' name for sixty-three years. Through our child care ministry we are trying to be a servant to all.

Thank you for your prayers and support and being a servant in this ministry.

Bobby R. Taylor
Director of Child Care

HOMECOMING
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.

July 9, 10, 1983

weekend on campus with old friends

July 10, 1983

ANNUAL ALUMNI BUSINESS MEETING

Memorial Chapel FWB Church

Speaker

Bobby R. Taylor

(Home's Director of Child Care)

Service begins at 10:30 a.m.

Picnic Lunch at Noon

MINISTERS' INSTITUTE TO BE HELD

The Ministers' Institute is offered as a service to ministers by Mount Olive College. The program this year is sponsored jointly by the College and the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists. All sessions will meet in the Henderson Building, Room 115. Lunch will be served in the College Cafeteria at a cost of $2.50 per meal.

Overnight accommodations may be arranged at the Southern Belle Motel, Mount Olive; telephone 658-9404. For additional information please contact the Rev. Frank Harrison, Mount Olive College; telephone: office, 658-2502; home, 658-9363.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8
MINISTERIAL STRESS AND BURNOUT

9:00- 9:30—Coffee, South Lobby, Henderson Building
9:30-10:30—"The Nature of Clergy Stress and Burnout—Why It Strikes the Minister," the Rev. Roy M. Oswald, director, Alban Institute, Washington, DC
10:30-10:45—Break
10:45-12 Noon—"Identifying Current Levels of Stress," the Rev. Roy M. Oswald
12 Noon-1:30—Lunch, College Cafeteria, Downtown Campus
1:30- 2:30—"Exploring Coping Strategies," the Rev. Roy M. Oswald
2:30- 2:45—Break
2:45- 3:45—"Learning How to Move More Deeply into Self-Care," the Rev. Roy M. Oswald
4:00- 5:00—Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Church Relations, Room 107, Henderson Building
7:00- —Cookout, Home of President and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, 619 West Main Street, Mount Olive. Free to all ministers and their wives with advance reservations.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9
THE MINISTER'S HEALTH, GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

9:00-9:30—Coffee, South Lobby, Henderson Building
9:30-10:30—"The Minister and His Spiritual Development," Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President
10:30-10:45—Break
10:45-12 Noon—"The Minister and His Professional Development," the Rev. Steve Sprinkle, Adjunct Professor, Department of Religion and Philosophy at Atlantic Christian College
12 Noon-1:30—Lunch, College Cafeteria
1:30- 2:30—"The Minister: His Nutrition and Exercise," Mr. Larry Dean, Department of Physical Education, Mount Olive College
2:20- 2:45—Break
2:45- 3:45—"The Biblical Concept of Prayer and Fasting," Mr. Calvin Mercer, Department of Religion, Mount Olive College

Each minister is requested to read: *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth* by Richard J. Foster. (New York: Harper & Row, Publishers), 1978. It may be ordered through the Free Will Baptist Press or branch bookstores.

FREE WILL BAPTISTS ON DEAN'S LIST AT MOC

Twenty-one Free Will Baptists were named to the Dean's List for the 1983 spring semester at Mount Olive College.

To qualify for the list, a student must be attending on a full-time basis, have achieved a quality point average of 3.2 (B+), and must not have received a grade below "C" in any subject for the semester.

From Wayne County were Carolyn Williamson, a member of the First Church of Goldsboro and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Williamson; Kim Lupton, a member of Grant's Chapel and the

(Continued on Page 14)

REGISTRATION FOR MINISTERS' INSTITUTE
Mount Olive College
August 8, 9, 1983

So that the College will know for how many to prepare, each minister who plans to attend the Ministers' Institute is requested to complete and return this form by August 1. Wives are encouraged to attend. Registration is $10 per minister. Make checks payable to NC Ministerial Association.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Church _____

Conference _____

Home Telephone _____

Office Telephone _____

My wife will accompany me: _____

I (we) plan to attend:

(check appropriate blanks)

_____ August 8. Number for lunch _____

_____ August 8. Number for cookout _____

_____ August 9. Number for lunch _____

Please return this form by August 1 to: Mr. Frank R. Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365.

For July 10

SAMSON: UNFULFILLED DESTINY

Lesson Text: Judges 13:2-5, 24, 25; 16:15-17, 28-30
Memory Verse: Proverbs 25:28

I. INTRODUCTION

The river was filled with chunks of ice, and a jam had formed. Upriver there were some barges caught in the ice floe. It was hoped that they could make their way down through the ice, but it was soon evident that this would not be possible. The barges were in danger of being crushed. To relieve the situation, charges of dynamite were placed at strategic sites in the jam, and all were detonated at once. The terrific explosion did serve to open a channel, and the barges passed through. Within a matter of a few hours, however, the ice floe had formed a jam once again. The explosion had served to give only a temporary respite from the problem.

Captains of tugboats upriver anticipated danger as they pushed downstream; but then help came in another way. A sudden change in the weather brought a warming trend that continued for several days until the channel became navigable—not just temporarily but continually. What the dynamite could not do was accomplished without noise or force, but by a power far greater than that of the explosives.

Many people seem to think of power only of the dynamite variety; that is, a power that is equated with force. For some it may be simply a matter of brute force. Others, more sophisticated, seek the power of position, or the power that is invested in wealth. This kind of power has been greatly exalted in our materialistic age. With it, people think that life will go their way and that their happiness will be ensured. Yet with all the manifestation of such power in the world, disintegration in numerous areas of society can be observed.

Obviously, another kind of power is needed: the power that can hold a family together, that can sustain one in time of tragedy, that can lift a broken and twisted soul to new life, and that can bring the peoples of the world together in brotherhood. Physical strength is not to be scoffed at, but it may be a dubious blessing unless it is accompanied by strength of character—moral and spiritual strength. This fact becomes quite evident as we consider our lesson for today: "Samson: Unfulfilled Destiny." As we look at this strong man of the Old Testament we should note that his life would have been more productive had he possessed more strength of another kind.

Last week's study concerned Jephthah and how he dealt with the threat to Israel from the Ammonites, east of the Jordan. About the same time, or soon after, the Philistines were giving trouble in the west (Judges 10:7). These enemies of Israel, formerly a seafaring people from Mediterranean lands, had invaded the coastal plains of Palestine. (The name *Palestine* is derived from *Philistines.)* They built five fortified cities and from these they made raids upon the surrounding areas.

Instead of repenting and seeking God's deliverance from their enemies, the people of Israel submitted to the Philistine yoke. Apparently they had no inclination to form an army under Samson's leadership to confront their oppressors. They opposed Samson's exploits against their adversaries, and even attempted to deliver him into the Philistines' hands (Judges 15:9-12). Perhaps if Samson had possessed greater qualities of leadership and of character, he might have called his people back to God and to freedom. As it was, he did not inspire spiritual devotion in others, as we shall see. When we have finished our study, we shall have to conclude, sadly, that here was a man who failed to reach the potential that was his. It is hoped that the study will awaken us to the need to examine our lives to see if we are doing our best to fulfill the purposes of God.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. The period of the judges was a sad time in the history of God's people. Each one did that which was right in his own eyes. Over and over, the people would be besieged by an enemy, and God would raise up a leader to deliver them. But soon they would fall back into the same pattern. Such was the period in which Samson lived.

B. Samson was born according to promise. God raised him up for a specific purpose. Does God raise up every person for a specific purpose? Have you found God's purpose for your life?

C. Every man has a weakness. Samson's weakness seemed to be a lust for women. Any rational man should have known better than to consort with the enemy Philistines. But he did it until it became his downfall.

D. Was Samson right in wanting to get revenge on his enemies? Was he right in using the power that God gave him to destroy the enemy? Was he right to destroy himself with the Philistines?

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, JULY 10

Scripture Reading—Matthew 12:22—13:23

SPIRITUAL RICHES

A little girl, on her way to church, was stopped by some soldiers. When the soldiers asked her where she was going she replied, "Please Sirs, I am on my way to my Father's House to hear the reading of my Elder Brother's will, for I am one of his heirs." So saying she was allowed to proceed to the church, undisturbed; for it was there that the minister read and explained the Bible, the last will and testament of our Elder Brother Jesus Christ. And He is our Elder Brother too; for we are all heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ. But, like this little Scotch girl, we must claim this inheritance if we are to enjoy it. And best of all, we live in a country where Bible reading and churchgoing are not forbidden, and where all are free to worship God according to the way He has revealed in His Word.

Spoken by a saintly woman,
Dying on an attic floor,
Having not one earthly comfort:
"I have Christ! What want I more?"

MONDAY, JULY 11

Scripture Reading—Matthew 13:24-58

POSSESSING OUR POSSESSIONS

Years ago a foreigner left the old country by boat for America. His valise was well stocked with dried herring, cheese and crackers. For breakfast he ate herring, cheese and crackers. For dinner, to vary the fare, he ate cheese, crackers and herring. At supper, he ate crackers, cheese and herring!

The tantalizing smell of good food coming from the ship's dining room caused the foreigner to long for the meals which the other voyagers were enjoying. Just as the ship was nearing New York harbor, the half-starved man went to the ship's purser and asked, "What would one good, square meal cost me?" "Let me see your ticket," said the purser. "Why, man," he exclaimed, "your ticket includes all meals during the voyage!"

How like this man are many of God's children! They sing:

I've reached the land of corn and wine,
And all its riches freely mine!

Yet they fail to possess their possessions. God daily spreads a feast of good things, saying, "Come, for all things are now ready!"

TUESDAY, JULY 12

Scripture Reading—Matthew 14

IT ISN'T MINE

I never look upon the money I can earn as my own. It is public money. It is only a fund entrusted to my care for proper distribution. I am constantly endeavoring to reduce my needs to the minimum. I feel morally guilty in ordering a costly meal, for it deprives someone else of a slice of bread—some child, perhaps, of a bottle of milk. My beloved wife feels exactly as I do. In all these years of my so-called success in music we have not built a house for ourselves. Between it and us stand all the homeless in the world!

Money may be the husk of many things, but not the kernel. It brings you food, but not appetite; medicine, but not health; acquaintances, but not friends; servants, but not loyalty; days of joy, but not lasting peace or joy.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

Scripture Reading—Matthew 15

WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN!

A rich man lay dying. His little daughter couldn't understand why her big daddy was so helpless now. She asked, "Daddy, are you going away?" "Yes, dear, I am going away, and I am afraid you won't see me again," her father answered. The little girl asked, "Daddy, have you got a nice house to go to?" The rich man was silent for a moment, and then began to cry. He lamented, "What a fool I have been! I have built a great business here and have amassed riches here, but I shall be a pauper there!"

You may have gold and grandeur,
And yet be counted poor,
He alone has riches truly,
Who has Christ, though nothing more!

THURSDAY, JULY 14

Scripture Reading—Matthew 16, 17

CONCERN FOR THE PERISHING RICH

A night watchman was making his routine rounds in a Southern resort town. It was past the midnight hour. Looking toward the end of the pier which extended into the sea, he saw a man standing. Investigating, he discovered that he who was standing there and peering into the dark waters was one of the millionaire tourists of the town. "Why, what are you doing here at this unearthly hour of the night?" asked the officer. Weeping, the millionaire confided, "I do not

believe there is a person alive who cares for me with a disinterested, unselfish love!"

Oftentimes the most neglected ones about us are those who possess great riches. Fawning sycophants toady to the rich, "having men's persons in admiration because of advantage" (Jude 1:16). They often give to them prominent places on boards and committees, not especially to honor any greatness of character in the rich, but to obtain financial gain. How wrong and sinful this is! How abhorrent this is to God who is "no respecter of persons" (Acts 10:34)!

It is all right to go all out in our effort to reach the down-and-out people. It is all wrong to neglect the rich and fail to bring them to Christ. They, too, are precious to God, and we should sincerely love them.

FRIDAY, JULY 15

Scripture Reading—Matthew 18, 19

MY REAL WEALTH

Toward the close of the last century a young businessman was accumulating riches rapidly. He said to Stephen Paxton, who had known only poverty through the years, "Come with me and we will make a fortune together!" Paxton declined the appealing offer, for God had placed upon his heart the great need of Sunday schools in the thinly populated rural sections of our country. "You are a fool to turn down such an attractive offer," said the businessman. Other people derided him, too, calling him a "crackpot" and a religious fanatic. Years passed. One day he met the man who had made him the business offer. The man said, "You wouldn't come with me. Now I am worth fifty thousand dollars and you and your family still live in a covered wagon!" "But," said Paxton, "you do not know the extent of my real wealth. More than fifty thousand boys, girls, men and women are enrolled in Sunday schools that I organized!"

I will place no value on anything I have or may possess except in its relation to the Kingdom of Christ. If anything I have will advance the interests of that kingdom, it shall be given up, or kept, as by keeping or giving it I shall most promote the glory of Him to whom I owe all my hopes, both in time and eternity.

SATURDAY, JULY 16

Scripture Reading—Matthew 20—21:27

WHAT WE HAVE IN CHRIST

A love that can never be fathomed;
A life that can never die;
A righteousness that can never be tarnished;
A peace that can never be understood;
A rest that can never be disturbed;
A joy that can never be diminished;
A hope that can never be disappointed;
A glory that can never be clouded;
A light that can never be darkened;
A happiness that can never be interrupted;
A strength that can never be enfeebled;
A purity that can never be defiled;
A beauty that can never be marred;
A wisdom that can never be baffled;
Resources that can never be exhausted.

The words of the Saviour, who had little or nothing of this world's goods, should speak to our hearts their sobering message: "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth . . . . But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven" (Matthew 6:19, 20).

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 5)

(evangelism) or nurture, but on both. Both are necessary. Each needs the other. To carry out our Lord's commission neither conversion or nurture should dominate at the exclusion of the other. Both are difficult tasks. They require a great deal of time, study, planning, and commitment. But let us remember that the One who commissioned us is the One who said, "All authority in heaven and on earth is given to me . . . and lo, I am with you always . . ." With this assurance of His power and presence, great though the tasks may be, how can we fail?

[1]Findley B. Edge, *A Quest for Vitality in Religion* (Nashville: Broadman Press, 1963), p. 178.

[2]Robert Raines, *New Life in the Church* (New York: Harper and Row, 1961), p. 48.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Board of Directors and the Management of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., sincerely appreciate the response of each organization who has purchased memberships during the past year.

Each group purchasing a membership is reminded that every application must be approved by the Board of Directors prior to being distributed; therefore, it is likely that a delay in receiving the membership certificate will occur since the Board meets quarterly.

Any membership applications received prior to the September membership meeting will be voted on immediately before the meeting, giving voting rights to all new members.

NOTICE

The Carteret County Union of the Eastern Conference will meet with Pilgrim's Rest Church near Morehead City, on July 30, 1983. The time has been changed from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Roland C. Cherry, *Union Clerk*

MRS. RUTHIE HOWARD

(Continued from Page 8)

her Lord with whom there is joy forevermore.

Let us look at the words of the wise Solomon which best describe her—"Who can find a virtuous woman, for her price is far above rubies." Ruthie has entered a new life leaving behind memories and established values that make those of us who knew her grieve for ourselves, but also make us extremely thankful God allowed her to pass our way.

We can almost hear Ruthie say:

"O teach me Lord, that I may teach,
The precious things Thou dost impart,
And wing my words, that they may reach,
The hidden depths of many a heart."

Submitted by Christian Chapel Church

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Lupton; Meg Jernigan, a member of Northeast and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Jernigan; Robin Johnson, a member of Northeast and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billy R. Johnson; Constance Williams, a member of Union Grove and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Williams Jr.; Janet Beasley, a member of Indian Springs and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Beasley; and Olivia Raper Best, a member of the Mount Olive Church and the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper.

From Sampson County were Jerry Allen Jr., a member of Robert's Grove and the son of the Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Allen; and Pandora Register, a member of Shady Grove and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Atlas M. Register.

From Johnston County were Cecil Blackmon, a member of Smyrna Church and the husband of Hulda L. Blackmon; and Teresa Atkinson, a member of Branch Chapel and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Atkinson.

From Lenoir County were Kimberly Anderson, a member of Christian Chapel and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Durwood Anderson; and Melissa Jones, a member of Daly's Chapel and the daughter of Mrs. Rose Jones.

From Duplin County were Faye Reardon, a member of Snow Hill Church and the daughter of Mrs. Norma P. Reardon; and Lora Chesmore, a member of Sandy Plain and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Chesmore.

From Greene County were Roger Heath, a member of Spring Branch and the husband of Linda C. Heath; and Sherry Forrest, a member of Little Creek and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Forrest.

From Wilson County was Walter Hilliard, a member of Daniel's Chapel and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hilliard.

From Beaufort County was Lisa Rowe, a member of Smyrna Church and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Rowe.

From Onslow County was Tammy Marshburn, a member of Mount Zion and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Marshburn.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 6)

presented a plaque to Mr. Sam Barefoot, recognizing him as the "Man of the Year." Mr. Tew's comments were that no one was more deserving than Mr. Barefoot, and the church was proud of him.

Blaney Rowe Is Ordained As Minister

Blaney Rowe was ordained as a minister of the Free Will Baptist denomination on May 20, 1983, with the service held at Bethel Church in Whortonsville, North Carolina. There to present the ordination certificate was the ordaining council—the Revs. David W. Hansley, Clifton Rice and Francis Garner. A beautiful service was held with a reception following. Members of the many churches were there to offer congratulations and to wish him and his family a rewarding future in serving the Lord.

Mr. Rowe is presently pastor of Bethel Church in Whortonsville.

Cabin Church Youth Have Bike-a-thon

The youth of Cabin Church, Beulaville, enjoyed a Bike-a-thon on May 15. Many youth participated in the event, and they raised $939 which will be used to complete some recreational facilities. Russell Barbee won the trophy for bringing in the most money—$191.50.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

being dignified, while Christian fellowship has become friendly sociability—such as is present in any club.

Our suspicions have caused us to believe we are the only ones who know anything. If a man does a good deed we know there has to be a catch to it somewhere. We give "the pious" little credit for living right, for we have little doubt that they have something up their sleeves. Every man is out for himself, and getting ahead is sometimes hampered because we have to keep one eye on our neighbors. We feverishly maneuver to outwit others before we ourselves are outwitted. Our critical and defiant nature is getting us nowhere!

If we are to be the people—and the Church—we were meant to be, we must trust Him who is the Heart of the old-time religion, which is not really old-time, nor new-time, but timeless, from eternity to eternity.

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

TO: All Ministers of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

FROM: North Carolina Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association

RE: Pre-Registration for Cragmont Ministers' Conference, July 18-21, 1983

Dear Fellow Ministers:

The Executive Committee wishes to invite you to come be with us at Cragmont Assembly on July 18-21 for our annual Ministers' Conference.

If you plan to attend this conference, please send $10 and the registration form below. (Make checks payable to Cragmont Assembly.) We wish to have your pre-registration by July 11.

****

REGISTRATION FOR MINISTERS' CONFERENCE
July 18-21, 1983

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ AGE _____

Please indicate your building preference:
Main Building _____ Motel _____ Floyd House _____ Dorm _____

Do you have any existing health problems that would prevent you from being on the second floor? Yes _____ No _____

The ground floor of the Main Building will be reserved for those with health problems.

Name those you wish to room with if you stay in the motel or in the Main Building:

_____

Note: All ministers' wives who stay on campus will room in the dorm behind the Dining Hall.

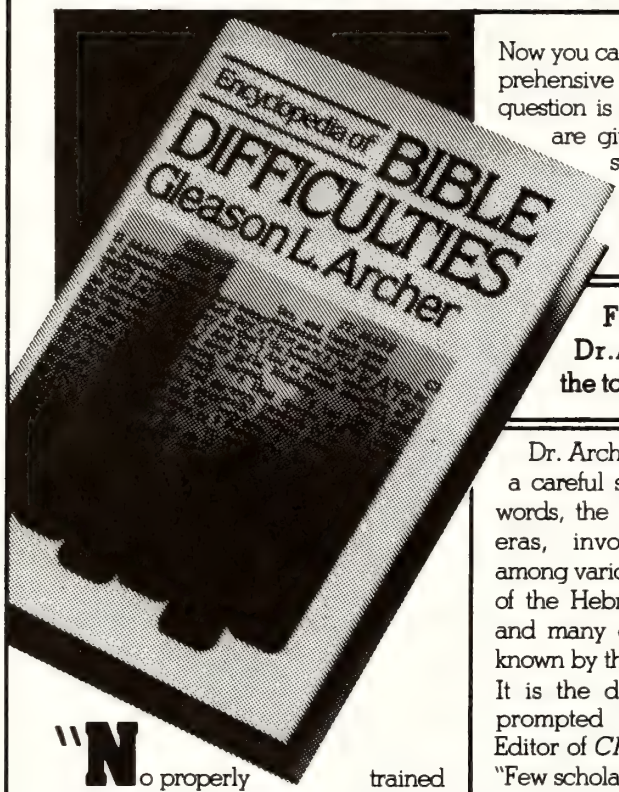
Mail your registration form and $10 deposit to: (by July 11)
Doug Skinner, P.O. Box 117, Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510

Make checks payable to Cragmont Assembly.

TOUGH QUESTIONS

ABOUT THE BIBLE

YOU CAN HAVE THE ANSWERS WITH GLEASON L. ARCHER'S MONUMENTAL NEW BOOK...



"No properly trained evangelical scholar has anything to fear from the hostile arguments and challenges of humanistic rationalists or detractors of any and every persuasion. There is a good and sufficient answer in Scripture itself to refute every charge that has ever been leveled against it."—Gleason L. Archer

That belief enables Gleason L. Archer to tackle the toughest questions of the Bible. And that belief is fortified by experience. For over thirty years Dr. Archer has been taking the tough questions—from seminarians, from people in pews, from thousands who avidly follow his column in Billy Graham's *Decision* magazine. Ancient Semitic language and on-site archaeological investigations have equipped Dr. Archer for such a formidible task.

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Dr. Archer's answers are based on a careful study of the meanings of words, the cultural context of Bible eras, involved interrelationships among various peoples, a knowledge of the Hebrew numbering systems, and many other details not readily known by the average Bible reader. It is the depth of this study that prompted Kenneth S. Kantzer, Editor of *Christianity Today* to say: "Few scholars are so uniquely equipped in their command of ancient languages and of the tools of biblical scholarship as is Dr. Archer. In addition to his own integrity as a scholar, he is a dedicated student of Scripture and a trustworthy guide for those who wish to understand Scripture better.

"...this book will prove immensely valuable to many earnest Christians".

His book will be a rich gold mine for those who hold to the inerrancy of Scripture and who need help in seeking to bring that conviction into harmony both with what they read in the Bible and the facts of the empirical world about them. I believe this book will prove immensely valuable to many earnest Christians and I heartily commend it to the church and all serious Bible students."

Get Answers, Pick up *Encyclopedia of Bible Difficulties* at a bookstore near you (in cloth).

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Gleason L. Archer, Jr., is Professor of Old Testament and Semitic Studies, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois. He holds the following degrees: B.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary, LL.B. from Suffolk University Law School, and Ph.D. from Harvard Graduate School. He served as a pastor for a number of years; was Professor of Biblical Languages and Acting Dean at Fuller Theological Seminary; and taught Arabic studies in Beirut, Lebanon. He has written several books, including *In The Shadow of The Cross, The Epistle to The Romans, The Epistle to The Hebrews,* and *Survey of Old Testament Introduction.*

Available through the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and its branch bookstores—New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston and Whiteville.

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

D.S.
F857WB

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Edward DuPuy

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

Encounters of a Godly Kind

We are suffering today from a saddening lack of Christian joy. It can be said that for the most part we have knowledge, enthusiasm, and some denominational zeal; but our fervor, which started out in revival fires, has been reduced to the coughing and sputtering we now do while we sit in the lingering smoke. We are to rejoice in the Lord always; but if we look at the typical Sunday morning congregation we are certain that something dreadful has happened since Pentecost. Our meetings are more like an assemblage to mourn a defeat than to celebrate a victory!

The faith we cherish is centered in the Cross; it has been bathed in the blood of those who gave up their lives for the cause of Christ; it has been blackened by the fires of persecution. But still, we are to be joyous—for our lives are to be abundant. The Lord himself admonished us to "Be of good cheer"; and He spoke of three types of cheer: the cheer of forgiveness (Matthew 9:2), the cheer of companionship (Mark 6:5), the cheer of victory (John 16:33). As Christians, we have been invited to a feast, not a funeral; a celebration, not a brawl. "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them," Christ assures us.

The Early Church was composed of a glad people—a group who possessed a singleness of heart, one which praised God. Paul, "traveling" from prison to prison, stressed that we should "Rejoice in the Lord alway; and again I say, Rejoice." Since I feel Paul's teachings should be followed, I ask why the same people who yell like Comanche Indians at ballgames sit like wooden Indians in the house of God on Sunday.

"**Then** were the disciples glad, **when** they saw the Lord" (John 20:20). (Pay careful attention to the words **then** and **when;** also note their position in the verse. Be sure to consider the role each plays in the sequence of events.) This verse does **not** read: "Then were the disciples glad when they saw themselves." Instead, it speaks of seeing God. Also, bear in mind that when we see the Lord, we see ourselves—and that is not very complimentary. When Job saw the Lord, he abhorred himself; the Prophet Isaiah cried, "Woe is me!" Habakkuk's body trembled. Godly encounters caused Saul of Tarsus to fall into the dust, while John fell at the feet of the Lord as one who was dead. Most of us are too busy looking at ourselves and others to see the Lord.

Many people live today behind closed doors of dread and uncertainty. They are afraid of death and life. Criticism and circumstances cause them anguish; and they are petrified of today and tomorrow. We do not need to be imprisoned by fear, doubt, and worry—we need to see the Lord.

I saw Him last week. He was high and lifted up—He was being exalted by young people at Cragmont Assembly. Their faces radiated the "joy of their salvation." And it was obvious that they, too, had seen Him. Those YFA'ers had a fresh assurance and joy; they seemed to understand the commission left them by God and they were aspiring—with power and authority from on high—to carry it out.

It is my prayer that each of us will see the Lord—and that He can be seen in the lives we live, too.

THE OBJECTIVES OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO?

by Bass Mitchell

One day a lecturer arrived on a train in a large city. He had a speaking engagement and was running late. He jumped into a taxi and said, "Drive fast, step on it!" After they had been driving about fifteen minutes, the lecturer asked the driver, "Well, aren't we about there?" The driver replied, "I don't know, sir. You never told me where we were to go."

We have been driving around for long enough in our Christian education programs. It is time to stop and ask, "Where do we want to go?" What objective or objectives are we seeking to reach through our Sunday schools? The purpose of this article is to show why this is such an important question and to suggest some ways that we can go about answering it.

What Is an Objective?

An objective is the result we wish to achieve through some means. In the military the objective is the point toward which an army advances. Everything begins with the objective. Only when the objective is clearly in mind can the strategy for reaching it be planned. You do not plan the means before you know the ends. You do not plan the best route to your destination before you know your destination. An objective is "a statement of a result consciously accepted as a desired outcome of a given process."[1] So in terms of Christian education, objectives are "statements of desired outcomes to be achieved through the process of education."[2]

A General or Overall Objective

Now at this point you may be asking, "What is the overall objective or purpose of Christian education?" Various answers have been given. Adelaide Case writes, "Christian education is the effect to make available for our generation—children, young people, and adults—the accumulated treasures of Christian life and thought, in such a way that God in Christ may carry on His redemptive work in each human soul and in the common life of man."[3] The chief objective of Christian education is also seen as the endeavor "to help persons, whether young or old, to live as Christians—to face the actual situations that life presents to them, and to resolve the issues involved in terms of Christian values and purposes."[4] The United Methodist Church states that "the fundamental goal of Christian education is the development of Christian faith and discipleship."[5] In 1958, the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches drafted the following objective: "The supreme purpose of Christian education is to enable persons to become aware of the seeking love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ and to respond in faith to this love in ways that will help them grow as children of God, live in accordance with the will of God, and sustain a vital relationship to the Christian community."[6] This statement then goes on to suggest ways this overall purpose can be achieved.

Specific Objectives

The above statements are attempts to define the general or overall objective of Christian education. It is essential to have such a general objective clearly in mind. Once it is stated and understood, then more specific objectives can be drawn from it. The United Methodist Church, for example, uses its overall objective as a foundation for developing the following aims or objectives: "To enlarge our grasp of the Bible, commune with God, appropriate and renew our tradition, take part in the Church's nurture and mission, receive God's grace and grow in faith, take up our ministry, make ethical decisions, serve as stewards of God's gifts, work toward common goals, and communicate our faith."[7] Another denomination makes the following specific objectives from its general objective: "Christian conversion, church membership, Christian worship, Christian knowledge and conviction, Christian attitudes and appreciation, Christian living, and Christian service."[8] This list would not be complete without mention of the eight objectives set forth in 1940, by The International Council of Religious Education. (It has been very influential on the educational programs of many denominations.) Because of space, only the following one will be given:

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"Christian education seeks to foster in growing persons a consciousness of God as a reality in human experience, and a sense of personal relationship to him."[9]

Objectives and Age Groups

Now many of these objectives were still by necessity quite general. So it became necessary for workers with children, youth, and adults to develop even more specific objectives that were adapted to age groups. In 1945, for example, The National Council of Churches set forth six goals for Christian education with children.[10] Later, in 1954, six goals were made for junior high education.[11] Four years later a statement was drafted on objectives for senior high education.[12] Other denominations have drafted their own specific goals or objectives for each age group.[13]

Where Do We Get Our Objectives?

The source for the objectives of Christian education is Christian theology. Theology, to borrow Randolph Crump Miller's definition, "is the-truth-about-God-in-relationship-to-man." Theology has to do with our basic understanding of who God is, who we are, and how God relates to us. Theology is based on revelation, that is, what God has chosen to reveal about Himself through Christ, the Scriptures, and various other ways. Theology includes all the essentials of the Christian faith and life. What we believe about God, Jesus, human beings, the nature and mission of the church, and so on will determine our purpose for and approach to Christian education. "Christian theology is the primary source of Christian educational theory and procedure."[14] Therefore, a clear understanding of Christian theology is absolutely essential for formulating the objectives for Christian education.

Why Do We Need Objectives?

First, they give us clear and definite ideas about what we are ultimately trying to accomplish through Christian education. The alternatives to objectives are unclear expectations, confusion, and aimlessness at every level of our educational program. Second, objectives make for wise use of our resources. Christian stewardship demands that we have objectives. Time, money, talents, and so much more are wasted if not channeled toward a definite end. Third, the persons asked to work in Christian education deserve and need to know what they are being asked to do. Fourth, they provide basic guidelines for the writers of literature and for the development of a curriculum. A curriculum is all the plans, subject matter, activities, and so on that are used to reach the objectives. Curriculum is the vehicle we take to reach our educational objective. Paul Vieth writes, "Once visualize your objective, and numerous doors will be opened to you through which its achievement may be brought about. Any means through which you consciously promote growth toward these ends is a part of your curriculum of religious education."[15] Fifth, objectives will provide uniformity for our educational program. They will give us a unifying center, a vision to share, and a goal for all of us to work toward. Sixth, they will provide us with a standard for evaluation. Without such a standard of reference we have nothing by which to check our progress in Christian education. Evaluation is simply looking at our educational program in light of our objectives and asking, "How are we doing?" This reveals where we are succeeding and failing. Thus we will then be able to build upon our strengths and strengthen our weaknesses.

Where Do We Go from Here?

How can we as Free Will Baptists formulate our own objectives for Chrisitan education? First, all of us must be convinced of the absolute necessity of having a clear statement of objectives. It will require cooperation, commitment, in-depth study, and the willingness to ask and answer some difficult questions. Second, such a statement requires that we examine and thoroughly understand who we are, what we believe as Christians and Free Will Baptists, and what we are called to do in the world. This will provide the foundation for formulating our objectives. Third, we can take advantage of the work that other denominations have done in this area. A familiarity with their work will stimulate our thinking and provide us with many informative insights. Fourth, a special committee could be appointed by the State Convention for the purpose of drafting a general or overall objective and specific objectives. It could be made up of persons from each conference who would be the best qualified for such a task. Fifth, further work would need to be done in adapting these objectives to the various age groups.

End Notes

[1]Paul Vieth, *Objectives of Religious Education* (N.Y.: Harper and Brothers, 1930), p. 18.

[2]Vieth, p. 19.

[3]As Quoted by Dora P. Chaplin, *Children and Religion* (N.Y.: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1948), p. 136.

[4]International Council of Religious Education, *Christian Education Today* (Chicago, 1940), p. 10.

[5]The Division of Education Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church, *Foundations for Teaching and Learning in the United Methodist Church* (Nashville, 1979), p. 33.

[6]*The Objectives of Christian Education:* A Study Document (N.Y.: National Council of Churches, 1958).

[7]*Foundations*, p. 34.

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"IN HIS PRESENCE"

Woman's Conference, Camp Vandemere
June 13-17, 1983

Camp Participants

As campers began to arrive, bright smiles, warm hugs, and cheery greetings were exchanged with fellow campers—and one knew that you were "In His Presence."

Happy Taylor, co-director of the Woman's Conference, greeted us. She presented the theme verse for the week, Exodus 33:14, ". . . My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest." Rena Kirk, Eastern District president, presented the opening devotional. Her remarks challenged each of us to seek "His Presence."

The crafts instructors, Louise Bryan and Hazel Stilley, gave brief explanations of the two crafts, strawberries and sculptured rose pillows. Nina Grace Register, co-director and pianist, along with Annie Belle Hines, music director, presented the theme song, "Come, Holy Spirit." Margaret Ard reminded the group about talent time and Woman of the Year presentations.

On Monday afternoon, Tim Heath, a Free Will Baptist ministerial student at Mount Olive College, brought an inspirational message, using Genesis 3:8 and 28:15. He reminded us to remember that we are always "In His Presence," and to stand up for Jesus. On Tuesday afternoon, Cecil Blackman, ministerial student from Mount Olive College, spoke to the group, continuing with the theme "In His Presence." He pointed out the joy of feeling His presence as one experiences the joy of salvation, and as we worship and praise Him in song, and the satisfaction of knowing that we do not face the second death.

Bible study was presented by Rudene Kennedy each night. She chose as her theme for the week, "Ordinary Folks." Each evening throughout the week 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 was read. She emphasized that God chooses "ordinary" persons to bring glory to Him. She illustrated this with characters such as Gideon, Elijah, Deborah, the woman of Shunem, Esther, Philemon, and others.

The Tuesday morning devotional was led by Janet Brown. Her topic was "His Presence in Sorrow," based on Psalm 27:5. She used flowers, food, cards, letters, money, and other examples to show some of the ways we express His presence in our lives as we reach out to others so they feel His presence through us.

During Tuesday afternoon, Clifford Gray, executive director of the Free Will Baptist Press, informally addressed the campers and answered their questions about the Press.

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Dola Dudley used Psalm 68:19 for the Wednesday devotional. She pointed out "His Presence in Daily Provisions," citing the example of the widow and the oil and the Prophet Elisha, His presence felt by the Hebrew children in the fiery furnace, and others. She closed with Isaiah 46:4, "And even to your old age I am he. . . ."

On Wednesday the campers toured a fish house in Oriental and many shops in the area. This tour was arranged by Linda Caroon (Eastern District W.A.C. Secretary) and her husband. The bus driver, Dwight Hawley, pastor of Rock of Zion Church, faithfully counted noses every time they stopped and left no one behind.

A new and different experience planned for the afternoon was Talent Time. Everyone got into the spirit with rhythm instruments, even a jar of peanuts. A ribbon for first place was presented to Ola Mae Williams, who sang "The Old Rugged Cross." "Mrs. Grunch," Rena Kirk, won second place; and third place winner was Kay Jones, as "Alfalfa." Ribbons were awarded to other contestants, with special recognition going to the "Battle Hymn of the Aging" Chorus.

Thursday—"Missions Day" —a day so packed full that you needed an extra 60 minutes, began with the devotional presented by Lydia van der Plas. She used Psalm 25:1-10, Acts 1:8, and Isaiah 2:2 to emphasize "Going Where He Wants."

Following the devotional, several campers presented a skit to show different types of church members and excuses given for not getting the job done. Another skit featured a college graduate contemplating becoming a medical missionary, and the problems her mother faced in giving up the child to God.

"Greetings" came to the group from the Barnards in the Philippines via tape.

Charles Crisp, Home Missions Director, addressed the group. Sandra Jones, former missionary, spoke about the life of a missionary. Harold Jones, Foreign Missions Director, reported on each of the foreign mission fields. Dale Albertson explained some of the work at the Camp for the Deaf at Eagles Nest. Bob Harber presented information about his going to work with the H'mongs. These reports were followed by a panel discussion in which those men and Willem van der Plas answered questions from campers.

Aileen Hawley told about customs and the work she and husband Dwight performed on the mission field.

Several of the women wore "foreign" costumes, and provided food from other countries for an afternoon snack.

During the afternoon, each Woman of the Year was recognized. Prior to the evening service, the Women of the Year formed a court of honor for the crowning of the new Miss Camp Vandemere. She is Janet Brown, who was Woman of the Year from White Oak Grove.

Willem and Lydia van der Plas and Johnna Hines sang several special numbers before the evening service. Other singing guests during the week were the choirs from Mount Zion Church, and several of the campers.

Rudene Kennedy led the devotional on Friday morning. Even as we said our farewells, truly we felt that every minute of this week we were "In His Presence."

Janet Brown

JULY IS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MONTH

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

In the last article you were asked to do some reflecting on your method of lesson preparation. The purpose of this article is to offer some suggestions which may be helpful in improving your preparation method.

First, plan for preparation, that is, block out a few hours each week for it. Make it part of your schedule or routine. Be specific. Set the hours and the days. Set aside part of your preparation time for early in the week, the earlier the better. Sunday afternoon or night would not be too early.

Second, determine the main idea or aim for the lesson. Every lesson should have one major point. The writer of the lesson may inform you of it. The main idea is what you really want to get across in the lesson. A good question to ask in determining the main aim is, "What do I want to happen in the lives of the persons in my class as a result of this particular lesson?" This is the most crucial and difficult step in lesson preparation. It is like planning a trip. You first decide where you want to go. Next you determine the best route to get you there. Once you have the main idea firmly in mind, then all kinds of ideas will arise as to how to best get it across. It is important to determine this early in the week. Why? Because then you can carry it in your mind throughout the week. It will act like a magnet to draw illustrations and ideas as you read the newspaper or a magazine, work, or converse with a friend.

Third, ask yourself, "Where does this lesson touch my life?" The lesson is as much for you as it is for the class. The lesson will be more meaningful for the class if you have allowed it to first be meaningful to you.

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Rollins Honored by Hillsberry Church

The Rev. and Mrs. Robert Rollins and son, Jerome

The Rev. and Mrs. Robert Rollins and son, Jerome, were honored on Sunday, June 26, by the members of Hillsberry Church, near Clinton, with a covered dish dinner to mark the end of Mr. Rollins' pastorate.

A gift was made to Moye Library at Mount Olive College to express the church's appreciation for the services of the Rollins family.

Current Events at Palmer Memorial Church

May and June were very eventful months at Palmer Memorial Church, near Garner. The homecoming was on May 1 and the speaker for the morning service was the Rev. Royster Martin, the first pastor of the church. Mr. Martin brought a very inspiring message, after which a picnic lunch was enjoyed by all in the fellowship hall. Among those visiting with the church were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Vinson from Wilson and the Seymour family. Singing was provided that afternoon by the Prescott family.

On Mother's Day the Woman's Auxiliary presented the oldest and youngest mother with a nice corsage.

The fourth Sunday was college graduation day at Palmer. The vestibule was decorated with each graduate's picture and their school colors. There were four graduates and their pews were decorated with their school colors and they sat with their parents during the worship service. The Woman's Auxiliary presented each graduate with a gift. Wanda Johnson was also presented with a Bible from her mother. The graduates were: Wanda Johnson, daughter of the late Rev. Milton Johnson and Mrs. Pearl Johnson, receiving a Master's degree in children's education from NCCU in Durham; Denise Whittington from UNC at Greensboro; and Stan Perritte with a diploma from Wake Technical Institute. After the morning service in which Mr. Boling commended the graduates for their accomplishments, they all had lunch with Mr. and Mrs. Boling at the steak house. In the evening service, Mr. Boling baptized two adults, Mary Anne Kahl and Mrs. Kaye Hatch.

On the fifth Sunday the church had high school graduation day with one graduate, Lisa Gower. Lisa's picture and school colors were displayed in the vestibule. She marched in along with Mrs. Boling as "Pomp and Circumstance" was being played by Teresa Norris. She was seated on a pew decorated in her school colors with her family. The sanctuary was decorated by two lovely flower arrangements on each of these Sundays, given by Mr. and Mrs. Boling in honor of the graduates at Palmer. After Mr. Boling had challenged Lisa to go out and accomplish high goals for herself, Lisa and her husband to be, Tim Faircloth, had lunch with Mr. and Mrs. Boling at the steak house. That evening at six o'clock, Lisa was given a reception in the fellowship hall.

Bible school began on June 13, and the children were treated to a special visit on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday by Miss Piggy, played by Mrs. Boling, and by Big Bird, played by Mr. Boling. On Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, they were also visited by Mr. Clown, played by Delano Whittington. There was an average of sixty during the week and the adults said the children had never enjoyed anything as much as the skits done by Miss Piggy and Big Bird. The children never did guess who these characters were until they saw the outfits in Mr. Boling's car after the service. Also that Sunday morning, the Woman's Auxiliary presented the oldest and youngest father with a boutonniere. The church also voted to give $1,000 on the mission building in the Philippines, and to pave the parking area.

AFC II Group Meets at Lee's Chapel Church

The AFC II Group of Lee's Chapel Church, near Dunn, met at the home of their leader, Mrs. Winston Jackson, on Monday night, June 20. The group was welcomed by Mrs. Jackson. Prayer requests were made and prayer was led by Mrs. Jackson. After a brief business session, the lesson was given on the Minor Prophets of the Bible. A short Bible exercise was done together and refreshments were served.

Central Conference Layman's League Holds Quarterly Meeting

The quarterly meeting of the Layman's League Fellowship of the Central Conference was held on June 8, 1983, at Ayden Church, Ayden. A

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rewarding musical program was presented by Tod Hart.

New officers elected during the meeting were Leon Butts of Ormondsville, president; Raymond Gray of Friendship, vice president; and Michael Roberson of Rose of Sharon, secretary-treasurer.

The league voted to support the Board of Superannuation during the coming year with the offering taken up at its meetings.

The next meeting will be at Tarboro Church, Tarboro, on September 12, 1983, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be a supper meeting.

Black Jack VBS Held

Black Jack Sunday school sponsored a very successful Bible school, June 13-17. The average nightly attendance was 139 including classes for ages 18 months to 18 years.

Lollipop Dragon welcomed everyone to the opening assemblies. He was joined each night by visiting puppets including Bert and Ernie, from Sesame Street, and Papa Smurf. The puppets led the pledges and theme verse and engaged in informal conversation with the children, encouraging them to bring a visitor to share the promises of Jesus.

The theme was "Jesus, Lord of Promises."

Offerings were divided between the Children's Home and the playground equipment fund for the church. Students shared their VBS knowledge and enthusiasm with parents and friends at the commencement program Sunday night, June 19. Oil paintings done by the Teen II Class were also displayed with much pride.

Alyne Elmore Circle of Lee's Chapel Church Meets

The Alyne Elmore Circle of Lee's Chapel Church near Dunn met on Tuesday night, June 21, at the home of Mrs. Sheila Jackson. Pam Spell, chairman, welcomed everyone and turned the lesson over to Mrs. Jackson. She opened the meeting with prayer, read Scripture from Joshua 2, and gave a very inspiring lesson on Rahab, a woman who lived during Bible times.

After the lesson, Pam Spell read thank you notes and then opened the June business session. Several things were discussed: (1) Plans for White Bible Service for Circle member Phyllis Godwin to be held at the church on Sunday night, July 24, at 7 p.m.; (2) Plans to go to Golden Years Rest Home in Falcon for the July meeting to give a birthday party for Mrs. Oma Hawley, a resident at the Home and a member of Lee's Chapel; (3) Plans for the annual Senior Citizens, widows and widowers supper to be held on Saturday night, September 17, at 6 p.m. in the church fellowship hall; (4) Plans for family cookout on Saturday night, August 13, in the church fellowship hall at 6 p.m.

The meeting was then adjourned with sentence prayers, after which refreshments were served by the hostesses, Sheila Jackson and Patsy Eason.

Bible School at Marsh Swamp Church

With "The Great Book" as the theme, Vacation Bible School was held at Marsh Swamp Church, Route 1, Sims, June 13-17. The week was determined to be a great success with everyone enjoying it. The average attendance was 86 each day.

Commencement was held on Sunday night, with the program being given by the students. Afterwards, the parents and friends were invited to the rooms to see the crafts each child made during the week.

The Rev. Ray Wells is pastor of Marsh Swamp Church. Lottie Boykin served as director of the school.

Successful Bible School At Sweet Gum Grove

Sweet Gum Grove Church, Route 1, Stokes, had a most successful Bible school with Mrs. David Hill as director. She was assisted by Mrs. Herbert Brown. The dates for the school were June 13-17. There was an average attendance of 91. On Wednesday night, there were over 100 present; and to celebrate this record, the pastor, the Rev. David Hill, had his tie cut off. Melanie Cottingham did the honor.

Each day there was a visit in form of a skit with Puff, the Christian dragon, and Princess Gwendolyn put on by Mary Jo Gandy, Donna Glisson and Beth Glisson.

The children had fun learning new songs with the help of Mrs. Ginger Briley, Mrs. Becky Futrell and Elizabeth Brown. There were classes for all ages. Refreshments were served each night which the children enjoyed very much.

Commencement services were held the following Sunday night. This was a very impressive service attended by a large crowd. The Young Believers of the church sponsored a bike-a-thon to help pay expenses of the Bible school.

Free Spirit Church to Have Gospel Sing

Free Spirit Church, Route 5, Wilson, will have a gospel sing on July 24, at 7 p.m. with the Oak Grove Boys of Elm City being featured. Everyone is invited to attend.

Heritage Mission to Be Organized into Church

On Saturday, July 16, 1983, at 10:30 a.m., the Piedmont Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina will organize Heritage Mission into full-time church status. Participating in the program that day will be the Rev. M. E. Cox, moderator of the Piedmont Conference; the Executive

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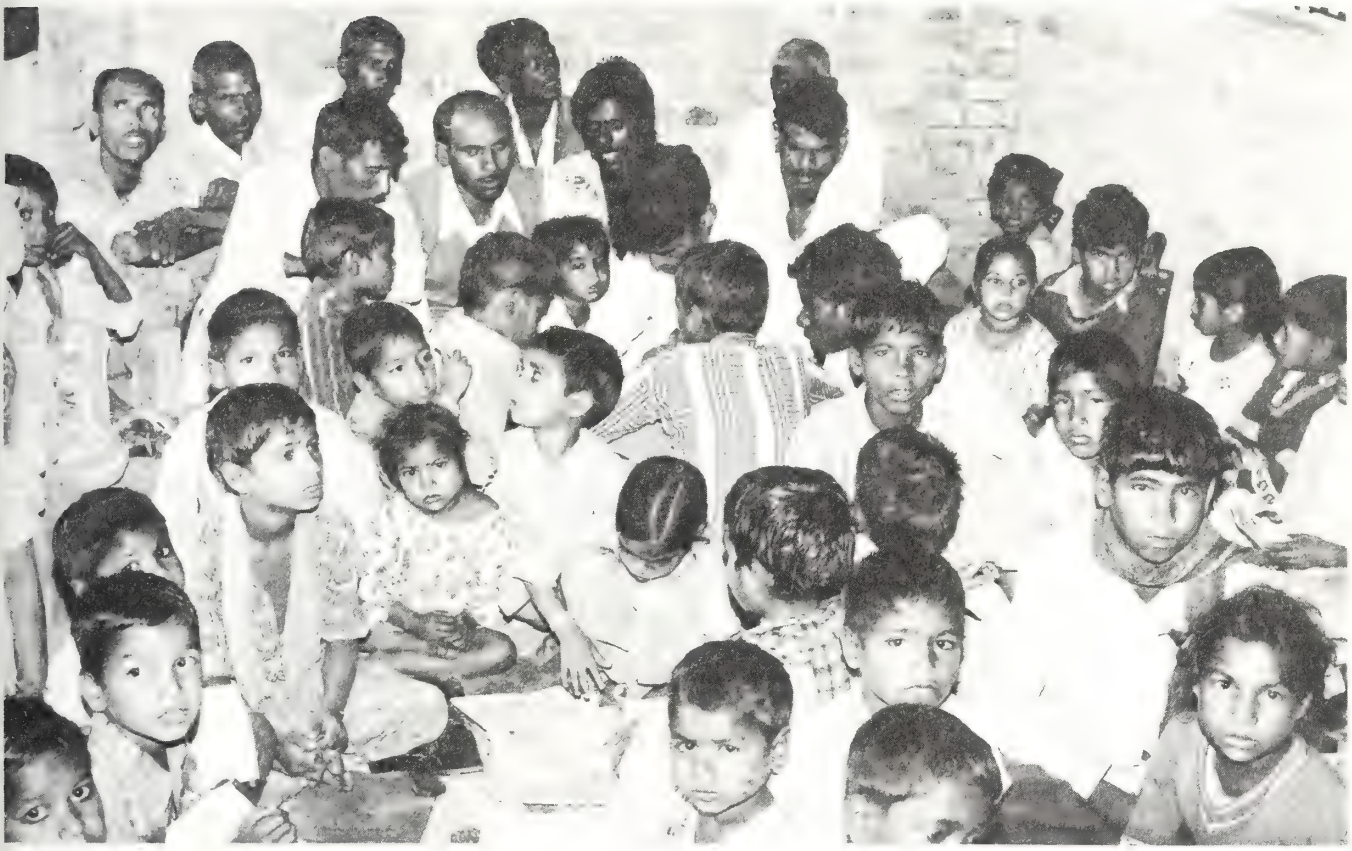
THEY ACCEPTED THE LORD AS THEIR SAVIOUR

by Dr. E. M. Lall



A small group of eighteen persons who were idol worshipers in the villages of Ganeshganj and Shergarh have accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour after great toil. They had their problems, even though their desire was sincere and they had started loving the Lord and believing Him. It took almost a year to find ways and means to overcome those problems to see their way clear to be really good Christians.

Deacons Ran Charan and Jagan Masih were the persons pioneering the work of the Lord in this area from time to time. The Rev. Mewa Ram was also a casual visitor to these villages.

It was on Saturday, March 12, 1983, that the Lord saw fit to enable me to adopt these people in our community of the Free Will Baptists. This group themselves gave this two room building for purposes of worship services. On their demand, considering the necessity, a Free Will Baptist Elementary School was started there (with immediate effect) with the help of the congregation.

Mr. Nanhoo Lal, a literate layman among them, is being prepared to take charge of the congregation, and until such time, Deacon Ram Charan and the Rev. Mewa Ram have consented to take care of this congregation.

We owe our gratitude to God for this blessing to our denomination and enabling us to win the lost souls for His Kingdom. His name be praised!

STUDENTS TO RECEIVE MERIT AWARDS

Six Free Will Baptists have been awarded merit scholarships at Mount Olive College for the 1983-84 academic year. They are Mark Clayton Watson, a member of Free Union Church in Beaufort County; Judy Carol Tyndall, a member of Piney Grove Church in Duplin County; Donna Elizabeth Perry, a member of Casey's Chapel Church in Wayne County; Karen Jeneane Coates, a member of May's Chapel Church in Wayne County; Rhonda Kaye Mercer, a member of Cabin Church in Duplin County; and Wanda Carol Jones, a member of Pine Level Church in Johnston County.

Mark is the son of Mrs. Bessie Watson of Pinetown and a 1983 graduate of John A. Wilkinson High School.

Merit scholarships ranging from $250 up to $1,500 are awarded each year at Mount Olive College to a limited number of students. Merit awards are based on academic achievement rather than financial need. There are three categories for these awards at MOC: Academic Honors Scholarships, Leadership Scholarships, and Academic Fellowships. Academic Fellowships cover one half the cost of tuition.

Students applying for merit scholarships at MOC must have grade point averages of "90" or above. Final selections are made by a scholarship committee on the basis of grades, class rank, SAT scores, intended career field, leadership ability, character, and an interview. Students who receive the awards participate in educational seminars designed to enrich the regular academic program.

Judy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Tyndall of Dudley and a 1983 graduate of Southern Wayne High School.

Wanda is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Jones and a 1983 graduate of North Johnston High School.

Donna is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alton Perry of Goldsboro and a 1983 graduate of Eastern Wayne High School.

Karen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Everette Coates of Mount Olive and a 1983 graduate of Southern Wayne High School.

Rhonda is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Mercer of Beulaville and a 1983 graduate of East Duplin High School.

FIRST YEAR AT MOC SUCCESSFUL FOR HEATH

Roger Heath

Roger Heath, a first-year ministerial student at Mount Olive College, reflected back over the 1982-83 academic year and acknowledged that it had been a year of successes.

Before Roger began his studies last August, he and his wife, Linda, moved to an apartment in Mount Olive, and they have made the transition from life on a Greene County farm to life in a small town.

He has also made the adjustment to being a student again, after 14 years away from the classroom, in addition to wearing several different hats in terms of employment. During the year, Roger worked for the College in maintenance as a grounds keeper and in construction on the College Hall site, along with two other full-time ministerial students, Steve Starnes and Cecil Blackmon. This summer he is employed as a campus security officer and works from 8 p.m. until 4 a.m. daily.

However, the hardest part of the move, says Roger, has been in "finding the time to study and still meet other obligations." He has, somehow, found the time and has completed the year with an impressive "B" average. Linda also enrolled at the College and is pursuing a one-year certificate in business.

Roger says, however, that he would make the same decision again to come to the College once he accepted the call to preach, even though the past year has meant many changes.

"A minister today needs to be educated to be effective," emphasizes Roger, "and a Free Will Baptist minister can get his best education at Mount Olive. I've found a good advisor as well as a good friend in Frank Harrison, and I've really enjoyed the religion courses here."

"Mount Olive College has done much for me personally, and I believe that the institution is very important to the future of Free Will Baptists in educating both their ministers and their young people," he added.

Of his plans, Roger says that he anticipates being in the first four-year graduating class of 1986 and that he would like to pastor a church in rural North Carolina.

He comes to Mount Olive from Spring Branch Church in Greene County.

"SPIRITUAL GROWTH" TO BE ON PROGRAM FOR MINISTERS' INSTITUTE

"The greatest problems of our time are not technological, for these we handle fairly well. They are not even political or economic, because the difficulties in these areas, glaring as they may be, are largely derivative. The greatest problems are moral and spiritual, and unless we can make some progress in these realms, we may not even survive." The above quotation is from the Foreword of the book *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth.* The Rev. Frank Harrison is requesting that all ministers who plan to attend Mount Olive College's annual Ministers' Institute read the book prior to Tuesday's session.

The Institute will be held Monday, August 8, and Tuesday, August 9, beginning at 9 a.m. in the Henderson Building on the new campus. Tuesday's program is entitled, "The Minister's Health, Growth, and Development." Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College and an ordained Free Will Baptist minister, will discuss "The Minister and His Spiritual Development" during the morning session.

The book *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard J. Foster lists twelve disciplines as the keys to spiritual growth: meditation, prayer, fasting, study, simplicity, solitude, submission, service, confession, worship, guidance, and celebration. Published by Harper and Row, copyright 1978, it may be ordered through the Free Will Baptist Bookstore at Ayden or branches in Smithfield, Kinston, Whiteville, New Bern, and Wilson.

NOTICE

My first board meeting was in April of 1968, and to my knowledge I have not had to miss but one meeting and that was because of a funeral. I have tried to serve faithfully and to the best interest of the Press for some over fifteen years; I am resigning from the Board of Directors effective at the close of June 20, 1983's meeting. I shall continue to pray for our Press and its success and to help in any way that I can. I love our Press and our denomination and pray that the day will soon come that our Press can be what it should be to our denomination.

Dewey C. Boling

Have you renewed your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist?*

SUNDAY, JULY 17

Scripture Reading—Matthew 21:28—22:22

HE MAKETH NO MISTAKES

My Father's way may twist and turn,
My heart may throb and ache,
But in my soul I'm glad I know,
He maketh no mistake.

My cherished plans may go astray,
My hopes may fade away,
But still I'll trust my Lord to lead
For He doth know the way.

Tho' night be dark and it may seem
That day will never break,
I'll pin my faith, my all in Him,
He maketh no mistake.

There's so much now I cannot see,
My eyesight's far too dim;
But come what may, I'll simply trust
And leave it all to Him.

For by and by the mist will lift
And plain it all He'll make.
Through all the way, tho' dark to me,
He made not one mistake.

MONDAY, JULY 18

Scripture Reading—Matthew 22:23—23:22

GOD RULES AND OVER-RULES!

When the missionary Barnabas Shaw was forbidden to preach in Cape Town he decided not to leave Africa, but to push into the interior. He bought a yoke of oxen, put his wife and his goods into a wagon and started out, resolved to settle wherever he would be allowed to preach.

So they journeyed for three hundred miles. Then while camping one night they discovered that a band of Hottentots were also camping nearby. In conversation with the leader Shaw learned that the heathen were on their way to Cape Town to find a missionary. The similar meeting of Philip and the eunuch (Acts 8:26-40) flashed through his mind, when he realized that God had been leading him where *He* wanted him to go.

When gray threads mar life's pattern, and seem so out of line,
Trust the Master Weaver who planned the whole design;
For in life's choicest patterns some dark threads must appear
To make the rose threads fairer, the gold more bright and clear.
The pattern may seem intricate and hard to understand,
But trust the Master Weaver and His steady, guiding hand.

TUESDAY, JULY 19

Scripture Reading—Matthew 23:23—24:14

GOD'S WAYS ALWAYS RIGHT

The ways of the Lord are right. Right to all. Right to each. Right to one as much as to any other. Right on to the end. The ways of the Lord are often dark and mysterious, but they are right. They are concealed, or revealed but in part; but right. They are very various—not outwardly the same to any two individuals of the human race; but right. They are changeful to the *same* individual; but always right. They are sometimes full of trial and temptation, seeming to press men on and down to evil; but that is only in seeming, for still they are right.

The ways of the Lord are right, and the just shall walk in them.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20

Scripture Reading—Matthew 24:15-51

THANK GOD ONE COTTAGE BURNED!

Years ago a fishing fleet went out from a small harbor on the east coast of Newfoundland. In the afternoon there came up a great storm. When night settled down not a single vessel of all the fleet had found its way into port. All night long wives, mothers, children, and sweethearts paced up and down the beach, wringing their hands and calling on God to save their loved ones. To add to the horror of the situation, one of the cottages caught fire. Since the men were all away, it was impossible to save the home. When the morning broke, to the joy of all, the entire fleet found safe harbor in the bay. But there was one face which was a picture of despair—the wife of the man whose home had been destroyed. Meeting her husband as he landed, she cried, "Oh, husband, we are ruined! Our home and all it contained was destroyed by fire!" But the man exclaimed, "Thank God for the fire! It was the light of our burning cottage that guided the whole fleet into port!"

If the Weaver of our life's pattern chooses another plan than the one we thought to use, is He not wiser than we? Surely it will be a pattern more beautiful than our fondest dreams!

THURSDAY, JULY 21

Scripture Reading—Matthew 25

FROM HIS HAND

I will not take that bitter thrust
Which rent my heart today
As coming from an earthly soul—
Though it was meant that way.
But I will look beyond the tool,
Because my life is planned;
I take the cup My Father gives—
I take it from His hand.

He knows, and even thus allows
These little things that irk.
I trust His wisdom and His love,
Let patience have her work.
Though human means have brought the sting,
I firmly take this stand:
My loving Father holds the cup,
I take it from His hand.

Now those who watch may wonder why
These things do not disturb.
I look right past the instrument
And see my Lord superb.
The trials which would lay me low
Must pass through His command;
He holds the outstretched cup to me,
I take it from His hand.

FRIDAY, JULY 22

Scripture Reading—Matthew 26:1-46

GOD MAKES NO MISTAKES

A Christian businessman suffered heavy financial losses. He began to doubt the goodness of God. "Why did He allow these reverses to come to me?" he questioned. One night he sat dejected and discouraged in the library before the fireplace. His little six-year-old boy came into the room and crawled in his lap.

Over the mantle hung a motto which read: "God's works are perfect." "Daddy, what does perfect mean?" Before the father could reply, the boy asked another question, "Does it mean that God never makes a mistake?"

The thought was just what the father needed. Enfolding the boy in his arms, he said, "Yes, my precious boy, that's just what it means!"

Confidence in God began to revive. Silently he prayed, "O God, do forgive me for my misgivings. I give myself anew to You. Use me for Your glory!"

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose (Romans 8:28).

SATURDAY, JULY 23

Scripture Reading—Matthew 26:47—27:26

AN ANIMATED QUESTION MARK

A mother's only child, a little girl, was suddenly taken from her. The mother's soul was overwhelmed by sorrow and grief. In her deep despair, she became an animated question mark. "Why, oh, why did God take from me my darling little girl?" she asked her pastor. "Why didn't He take one of the six children of Mrs. . . ., a mother who has failed so miserably to be a true mother to her children, neglecting them as she makes the rounds of the saloons, and leaving the care of them to the neighbors? She has shown that she does not care for her children and that she does not want them!"

The pastor sat speechless, not knowing the answer to the grief-stricken mother's question.

Let us not judge harshly that sorrowing mother, remembering that there was another One who asked, "My God, why?"

Let us always find comfort in the assuring words of the Saviour, "What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter" (John 13:7).

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace,
Behind a frowning providence,
He hides a smiling face!

Blind unbelief is sure to err,
And scan His work in vain,
God is His own Interpreter,
He will make all things plain!

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

GOD'S HANDWRITING

He writes in characters too grand
For our short sight to understand;
We catch but broken strokes, and try
To fathom all the mystery
Of withered hopes, of death, of life,
The endless war, the useless strife,—
But there, with larger, clearer sight,
We shall see this—His way was right.

—John Oxenham

For July 17

HANNAH: A PROMISE KEPT

Lesson Text: 1 Samuel 1:9-11, 19, 20, 24-28; 2:1, 2
Memory Verses: 1 Samuel 1:27, 28

I. INTRODUCTION

It is good to make promises, for promises are commitments. We need to make promises to ourselves, for in this way we can give direction to daily living. "This morning," we may say, "I shall have a concern for others; I shall be alert to ways of encouraging and helping those whose lives I touch." Such a resolution could make a difference for the better in our lives. Without such promises we are in danger of aimless drifting, uncommitted to anything other than what we always have been.

We need to make fresh commitments of ourselves to God. It is too indefinite simply to say, "I shall try to do better, Lord." We must be specific. "Lord, I will be in church the next four Sundays" (if it is not already a practice to be there every Sunday). "I will read the Gospel of John this week." "I promise that this one day I will keep my temper under control." These resolutions may seem to be about rather minor matters, but isn't life made up of many little things? Great promises to achieve high goals are commendable, but promises that are too ambitious may be self-defeating by their very nature. Why not begin with a commitment we are sure we can keep? Then, when we have kept it, we will have a good feeling for ourselves because we will have maintained our own integrity. This will, in turn, strengthen us for keeping more significant promises in the future.

We need to make promises to others. One might say to his wife, "Darling, it has occurred to me that I haven't shown the attention to you that I should. Starting now, I am going to do something about it." In a delightful little book entitled *Promises to Peter,* Charlie Shedd records some promises he made when Peter was born. He promised to remember that making a good child requires a lot of love. He promised not to overwork the word "no." Above all, he promised to do everything he could to put the hand of Peter in the hand of God. How much more delightful would be our relationships to those around us if we would commit ourselves to promises such as these.

Anyone with only a casual acquaintance with the Bible knows about Samuel, since two of the Old Testament books bear his name. Samuel was the last of the judges and the beginning of a long line of prophets who would, one after the other, call Israel to follow the Lord. Samuel, more than any other person, is to be credited with bringing the scattered tribes of Israel into a nation, united under the banner of devotion to the one living God. For forty years this stalwart man of faith would provide strong leadership for his people. Beginning about 1075 B.C., he would judge Israel personally. Later he would anoint both Saul, Israel's first king, and David.

The story of Samuel, like that of Samson, begins before his birth. Back of Samuel was a devout mother named Hannah. Her situation was such as to test her faith and devotion to God, for she was one of two wives of Elkanah. Furthermore, she was barren while the other wife, Peninnah, had sons and daughters. To make matters worse, Peninnah vexed Hannah. Each year Elkanah, accompanied by his wives, would go to the house of the Lord at Shiloh to offer a sacrifice.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. Hannah is an example of one of those persons who went to the Lord in desperation and made a vow, but when God remembered her and answered her prayer, she did not forget the vow. Too many people make vows to the Lord and then forget them when things go well with them.

B. The fact that Hannah was barren and could not bear children had become a source of distress to her. In desperation, she knew where to turn. Blessed is the man or woman who knows to turn to God in the time of desperation. Too many turn to the things of the world.

C. Have you ever heard any one in a time of desperation make a promise to God and then forget that promise when the period of desperation passes? Most of us have. Some of us may have been guilty of doing this ourselves. If one makes a vow to the Lord, he should be careful to pay that vow.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A childless wife prayed earnestly for a son, and as in the case of Hannah, God blessed her with a little boy. As a token of gratitude she gave a magnificent sum to the church and let it be known that she would do her best to rear the child to be a servant of God. But after two years the child died. What did the mother do? She brought an even greater gift to the church to show her gratitude for having had two wonderful years with her baby, and for the knowledge that he was now safe in Heaven, awaiting her coming.—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 6)

Fourth, take into consideration the needs and life situations of the persons in your class. Let individual faces come to mind. Tim was just laid off from his job. Little Susie will have an operation next week. Tailor the lesson to fit the unique problems, issues, and concerns of your class.

Fifth, gather all the information and materials you can which will help your class get a clearer understanding of the main point or idea. Use all the resources at your disposal. Some good resources are Bible commentaries, quarterlies, articles from newspapers and magazines, your own experiences and thoughts, and even other people.

Sixth, make an outline for the whole session. How will you begin the lesson? Always try to capture their attention at the outset. Show that this lesson deals with one of their vital concerns. Decide at what points you will use the various materials you have gathered. What is the best way to use them? What teaching methods will you use? Should you use a lecture, discussion, questions and answers, storytelling, music, a film, or a combination of methods? When and where will you use each method? How will you conclude the lesson? It is important to subject every part of your outline and all your materials to the following test: "Does this move me toward or away from the main objective or idea for this lesson?"

Seventh, after the lesson, do some evaluation. Did you reach your destination? What happened? How do you feel about the session? What worked well? What didn't? What happened to the persons in your class as a result of this lesson? What did you learn from this evaluation which can help you on the next lesson?

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 8)

Committee of the Piedmont Conference; Dr. Eugene Poston, pastor of the mission; and many denominational leaders. Mr. Clay Lefler, mayor of Matthews, will be present to welcome the church into the Matthews community.

A special love offering for Heritage will be taken during the services. A goal of $1,000 has been set for that day. Dinner will be served by Heritage that day. Dr. Poston and all the congregation invite all their friends to join them for this joyful event.

Heritage is located off 74 east between Charlotte and Monroe. If anyone is traveling east on Highway 74, go past the Toyota dealership to the next stoplight. Turn left. The church is located at the intersection of Sam Newell and Margaret Wallace Roads.

NOTICES

The Third Union of the Eastern Conference will meet at Warsaw Church, Warsaw, on July 30, 1983, at 10 a.m.

The Rev. Orvin B. Everette, *Moderator*
Justin Kornegay, *Clerk*

New Sandy Hill Church, near Bailey, has a Wurlitzer organ for sale. It is a Model #560 with two keyboards, electronic chord memory, one octave bass pedals, an electronic rhythm section, and is in excellent condition. It is ideal for a small church. For more information, call Wilbur Bissette at 235-4719; or the pastor, the Rev. David Hines, at 291-9759. The asking price is $1,200.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Owen K. Arthur Jr. now has a new address. It is Route 2, Box 482-A, Richlands, NC 28574; phone, 324-5934. He is pastor of Whaley's Chapel Church.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 4)

[8]Robert K. Bower, *Administering Christian Education* (Eerdmans, 1964), p. 173.

[9]The International Council of Religious Education, *Christian Education Today* (Chicago, 1940), pp. 16, 17.

[10]*Goals for the Christian Education of Children* (N.Y.: National Council of Churches, 1945).

[11]*Junior High Objectives* (N.Y.: National Council of Churches, Department of Youth Work and Department of Curriculum Development, 1954).

[12]*The Objectives of Christian Education for Senior High Young People* (Service Bulletin distributed as a study paper by the Commission on General Christian Education, National Council of Churches, 1958).

[13]For an example of objectives adapted to Intermediates, See Bower, pp. 173-177.

[14]Randolph Crump Miller, *Education for Christian Living* (New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1956), p. 7.

[15]Paul Vieth, *Teaching for Christian Living* (St. Louis: The Bethany Press, 1929), p. 19.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

Mr. Doug Brown, a licensed minister from Cathedral Church, Durham, would like to announce that he is available for pastoral services, revivals, or special youth services. He is a member of the Piedmont Conference. He can be contacted by writing him at 2901 Purvis Road, Durham, NC 27704; or by phone, (919) 682-7113.

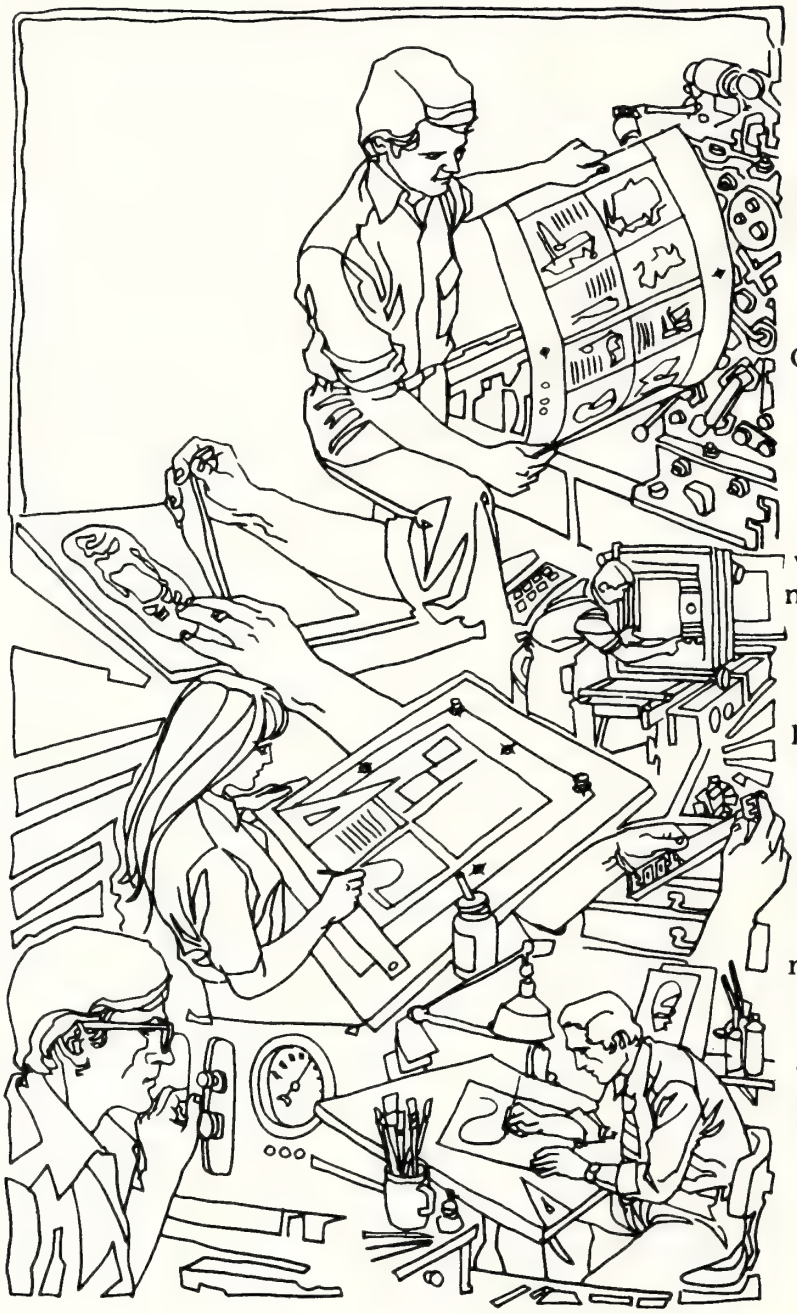
CHURCH AVAILABLE

Free Union Church, Beaufort Church, is in need of a full-time pastor. A parsonage is provided. Anyone interested, please contact: Charlie Keech Jr., Route 1, Box 130, Pinetown, NC 27865; phone, 943-3260; or C. J. Brooks Jr., Route 2, Pantego, NC 27860; phone, 934-2929.

COMING EVENTS

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

July 11-16—Sunday School Conference, the Rev. Frank Grubbs, director; Cragmont



Why Wait?

Keeping up with what is happening among Original Free Will Baptists is not always an easy task, but it is one we enjoy. With each and every printing of *The Free Will Baptist,* we try to provide information about meetings; details of work being accomplished by denominational enterprises, institutions, and auxiliaries; as well as inspirational materials which will challenge you to greater service. Every Free Will Baptist family should be receiving *The Free Will Baptist.* Why don't you subscribe today? Fill out the form below and mail it to the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513-0158.

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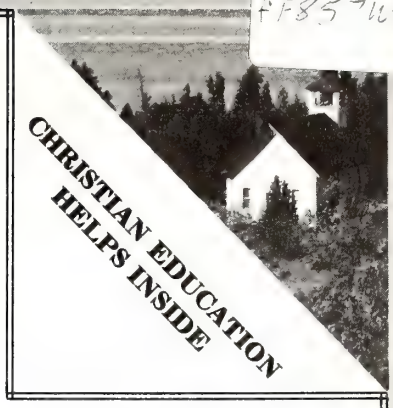

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HELPS INSIDE

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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July 20, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

Special Services Planned—Make Plans Now to Attend!

Special services will be held at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Anytown, North Carolina, on Sunday, July 38, 1983. To make attendance at this service more appealing, the following arrangements have been made:

—*Since many of you are afraid that you might have company and need to stay home to fix lunch, the mid-day meal will be catered at high noon by the world-renowned firm of "McDonald's-Parker's-Mom's Sunday Dinner."*

—*Since many of you plan to attend because you can't think of anywhere else to go, the pastor has appointed a special committee which will be showing slides of various vacation resorts, all luxurious but costing less than $10 a night; all sites are within an hour's drive of home and grandmother's.*

—*A wake-up service is being made available for those who fear they might not get up in time; and private duty nurses and "personal" physicians will attend to those who just might not feel like coming.*

—*A 3-D mural of the local country club, complete with pool and golf course, will be in place, so some members will feel right at home and a part of what's happening.*

—*Hearing aids will be installed in one section of the sanctuary;* **and** *volume control buttons will be available on headsets for those who feel the minister gets too loud. Individual television monitors will give those who can't see a better view; and those sets have built-in recorders as part of their standard equipment. Located in the racks by the hymnals will be tapes of your favorite singing groups and preachers—just in case the choir sounds off-key or the minister seems boring.*

—*In the event the sermon gets too close at home or too long, buttons have been added which open a trap door located conveniently enough just in back of the pulpit; this is a sure cure for moving orations.*

—*Since the church officials understand the present economic crunch everyone is experiencing, the church will now offer bank drafts or tithe installment plans. (Discussions are now being heard regarding the feasibility of offering financial management plans for members. It is rather distressing that so many feel they cannot return to the Lord the portion so rightfully due Him, for fear of not being able to eat next week. And who could stand the thought of some child not having the latest designer clothes? Surely the Lord will understand!)*

—*Weather conditions have been checked with all the country's experts; but in the event bad weather becomes the order of the day, free umbrellas, raincoats, and boots will be available. Ski gear is being flown in—just in case. Also, all those who come will be given a free bottle of SURE TAN. Merely holding the bottle will give an individual a perfect "bronze" tan.*

—*In the event you think of something you had rather do than attend church that day, notepads, pencils, and pads will be provided so you can jot down your ideas. It would be a shame to forget them just because you were in church.*

—*It has come to the minister's attention that some people do not attend church because of what they call "the high percentage of hypocrites" who do come. Special areas are being set up for those who feel they are too good to be with those who err. These areas will be equipped with special tweezers, the latest models on the market for removing "the splinters" from the eyes of others.*

(Continued on Page 14)

TEACHER TRAINING: A MUST

by Adrian Grubbs

Teacher training is not a question of "if" but "when" and "how." A teacher training program is essential to an effective teaching ministry in the church. A Sunday church school teacher is like a carpenter. In order to be a good carpenter a person must have more than "willingness." He must have some knowledge of the trade, he must have some basic carpentry skills, and he must know his tools and how to use them. Most Sunday school teachers are recruited because they have some teaching ability. A person may be asked to teach because of his knowledge of the Scripture, or because of his ability to present the biblical material in a precise and interesting manner, or because of his ability to relate well to a particular age group. It is rare for a person to have all the desirable skills and abilities for teaching. What one lacks, or is weak in, might well be gained through a teacher training program.

A carpenter who does not know the tools of his trade and how to use them will not be very effective. He could learn some of that from books, in class, or as an apprentice. A teacher must also be familiar with the teaching tools—prayer, the Bible, maps, church history and doctrine, personality development, etc. A teacher's strengths could be built upon and weaknesses could be strengthened through a teacher training program.

Once a carpenter is established in his trade, he still must keep up-to-date on construction innovations. Building materials change, building techniques change, and what people want and need in a building change. A carpenter must keep well informed, must constantly be improving his skills, and must keep his tools in prime condition. So it is with the Sunday school teacher. Through an on-going training program a teacher will constantly be learning new teaching techniques, refining and sharpening his/her teaching skills. When I was a boy growing up in the country, I found it handy to carry a pocket knife. I also learned that my knife was not much good if I did not keep it sharp. Over a period of time and with much use my knife would eventually get dull. A teacher's skills are also apt to get dull with use and time. A good teacher training program can

(Turn the Page)

help even the best of teachers to keep their skills sharp.

A training program can be of tremendous help to both the seasoned teacher and the new teacher. Most new Sunday school teachers feel somewhat inadequate to meet the challenge of their responsibilities, and many potential teachers often refuse to teach because they do not feel they are capable of fulfilling the task. The responsibilities of a Sunday church school teacher are extremely important. No one should take the teaching ministry lightly. In Deuteronomy 6:7 the people of God are commanded to diligently teach their children the Words of the Lord. In Matthew 28:18-20 the teaching ministry is part of the Great Commission from our Lord. In the Epistles teachers are exhorted to use their abilities faithfully as gifts from God (see Romans 12:3-8, James 3:1, and other references). The teaching ministry is a high calling and must not be looked upon nor engaged in lightly. That is all the more reason for us to have effective teacher training programs; our teachers want to, and should be, as well trained for this service as is possible. If a training program were offered maybe potential teachers would be more willing to serve and new teachers would gain more confidence in their ministry.

Now, who is responsible for the teacher training program? The responsibility falls first to the pastor. It is his duty as pastor and teacher to equip the saints for ministry (Ephesians 4:12). The pastor has general superintendence of the church (*The Articles of Faith*, 1976, p. 70), and is usually the best trained person in the church to teach teachers. The Sunday school superintendent is next in responsibility, because he is elected to direct the Sunday church school program. Third, many churches give this responsibility to the Board of Christian Education. But neither one should wait for the other to initiate action; the cooperation of each is needed, and it is in order for either one to approach the others. And the teacher is not without responsibility and should not hesitate to ask for workshops, programs, and whatever other helps that may be needed. If teachers themselves request certain training programs they will more than likely be provided.

There are some resources available, and efforts have been made to assist the church in planning and implementing training programs. In the "Sunday School Handbook" the Sunday School Convention suggests that four books be read by each teacher: *Blueprint for Teaching* by John T. Sisemore, *Training for Service* by Orrin Root, *An Introduction to Original Free Will Baptists* by Floyd B. Cherry, and *The Seven Laws of Teaching* by John Milton Gregory (all these books are available at the Free Will Baptist Press and Bookstores). A certificate will be issued by the convention to each teacher who reads the four books, writes a paragraph on each chapter, and sends the written materials to the Sunday School Convention, c/o Janie Jones Sowers, P.O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

In the early years of the North Carolina Free Will Baptist Sunday School Convention the annual meeting was called a Convention-Institute. Instructional programs were offered at each convention for the Sunday school staff. In recent years this idea has been revived as the Convention each year offers a series of workshops for teachers, superintendents, ministers, and Boards of Christian Education.

The Paul Palmer Institute of Christian Studies offers a program of study in the Bible, the church, and the Christian faith, in addition to Sunday school workshops, that will provide a good foundation for teachers in the Sunday church school. Any of these courses can be taught at any location in the state upon request. For further information contact the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Director of Church Relations, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365.

The officers of the Sunday School Convention are also trying to fill the office of Field Secretary as soon as possible, hopefully, within the year. This office will be for the use of all Free Will Baptist Churches. The Field Secretary will be available for consultations, advice, to assist in planning workshops and setting up teacher training programs in local churches and district conventions. For more information contact Mr. Stanley Jenkins, President of the North Carolina Sunday School Convention, 712 Cameron Drive, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

The Superintendents-Pastors Banquet is another effort by the Sunday School Convention to bring Sunday school leaders together for an informational and inspirational meeting. Not only is there opportunity for the informal sharing of ideas, but a speaker is engaged to present ideas and offer helps that can be carried back to the local schools. This year the Superintendents-Pastors Banquet will be September 9, 7 p.m., at King's Restaurant in Kinston, North Carolina.

In summary, let me repeat without reservation that a teacher training program is essential for an effective Sunday school teaching ministry. The teaching ministry is important and necessary for the church. Our many dedicated teachers are to be commended for doing a good job. They need all the help they can get in order to keep up the good work and to perform their ministry even better.

A LETTER TO SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Dear Co-Workers,

You, as teachers in the Church, stand within a great and noble tradition. Paul once wrote to young Timothy, "What you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others" (2 Timothy 2:2). This is how the Christian faith has been passed down from generation to generation. Timothy received it from Paul, Paul received much of the Christian tradition from the Apostles, and the Apostles received it from Christ. Paul plainly tells Timothy to be certain to entrust this sacred tradition to faithful persons who can teach it and thus carry it on to the next generation. You are part of this vital link between generations. You stand within a teaching heritage which spans the centuries all the way back to the Greatest Teacher, Christ. You are in very distinguished company. You serve in a ministry that has been honored and respected from the very beginning of the Church. You serve in a ministry that is absolutely essential for the survival, growth, and the continued faithfulness of the Church. I cannot think of a greater honor we could bestow upon you than to entrust you with this sacred responsibility.

Now perhaps some of you have been wondering just why the Church has chosen you. What it is about you which led the Church to ask you to serve in this sacred ministry? Let me try to answer your questions.

First, you were chosen because of your willingness to be entrusted with the Christian tradition, that is, you desire to learn and be thoroughly acquainted with the Christian faith. This desire to learn about and grow in the Christian faith reveals your basic commitment to Christ, His Church, and to living the Christian life. You possess the dedication to "study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." You see, the best teachers are the ones who know they have and will always have a lot to learn. You must be and always remain a learner.

I encourage you to make an inventory of your knowledge and skills. What areas are you weak and strong in? Perhaps you need to increase your understanding of the Bible and of the major beliefs of the Christian faith. What of your teaching skills? Perhaps you can sharpen your skills and develop new ones. You may see the need to increase your knowledge of the Church —its history, its programs, its nature and mission, and even the history of our own denomination. Once you know where you can make some improvements, decide on the best ways to go about making them. Then, "Study to show thyself approved unto God . . . ."

Second, Paul said to "entrust what you have heard from me . . . to FAITHFUL men . . . ." You were asked to serve as a teacher because you are faithful to the Christian life. You are committed. You live what you are asked to teach. You see, a person may have a thorough knowledge of the Christian faith but this means little if that person is not faithful to it. The faith must be known and lived! You will teach more by who you are than by what you say. Our Lord set the example. Jesus did not merely say, "Do as I say." Jesus said, "Follow me!" He was Himself the ideal He taught.

Third, you were asked to serve as a teacher in Christ's Church because we believe you have the gift for teaching. Paul says, ". . . entrust what you have heard from me . . . to faithful men who will BE ABLE to teach others." In another passage Paul says, "Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers . . ." (1 Corinthians 12:27, 28). God has given you the gift of teaching. He has appointed and called you to this important function in the body of Christ. All we have done is to acknowledge the fact!

Now I know that some of you may feel that you are not a very gifted teacher. We need to deal with those feelings. We all need to examine our sense of calling, to discover our gifts, and to make sure that we are in a position of service which matches our gifts. I certainly know what it's like to be uncertain of your gifts and calling. But one thing you cannot be uncertain about, you do have gifts. To discover your gifts in a very real sense is to discover your calling. But if you feel inadequate or giftless in the ministry of teaching, this may not mean at all that you are in the wrong position of service. God help us if we begin to feel so adequate that we feel no need to be constantly improving ourselves and depending upon Him! Considering the tremendous responsibility of this ministry, how can we not but feel inadequate? These feelings may be God's way of stimulating you to develop your gifts and to uncover the gifts you may not know that you have. Use these feelings of inadequacy to drive you to greater study, to fervent prayer, and a deeper reliance upon God.

Fourth, you were chosen for this sacred ministry of teaching because we see in you a genuine love for persons. Paul says, ". . . entrust what I have told you . . . to faithful men who will be able to teach OTHERS." Your first love is for God. Your second love is for persons. If a teacher has all knowledge, all understanding, a mastery of all teaching skills, but has not love, that teacher has nothing. We believe that you have that love. You possess the desire to see others grow in their likeness to and relationship with Christ. You desire to be a channel for the loving nurture and teaching of the Holy Spirit to flow into the lives of others.

Now I encourage you to let your love grow. Get to know each person better. Learn his or her story. Be a good listener. Identify with their problems and needs. Show loving concern and understanding. Take time to visit them. Call on them when they are sick. Remember their birthdays and anniversaries. Pay attention to the small things which amount to so much. Be a minister to them.

For all these reasons and more you have been asked to serve in this sacred ministry. We pledge to you our full support. We believe in you! We respect and honor you for your commitment to Christian education, your faithfulness, your gifts, and your love for others. Remember to "be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus," for all you are, all your gifts, all you accomplish are due to His grace. We all are called to plant and water the seeds of the gospel, but only God can make them grow. "Lord, all the honor and glory belongs to you. Amen!"

I Am Your Servant,
Bass Mitchell

AYDEN SEMINARY-EUREKA COLLEGE ENDOWMENT FUND

by W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College

Free Will Baptist Seminary, Ayden, N. C.

Although the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina organized their first church as early as 1727, it was not until 169 years later that definite steps were taken to establish an educational program.

At a union meeting held at Spring Branch Church, Pitt County, in 1896, a committee was appointed to prepare plans and to secure funds for beginning a school. During 1897, a building was erected in Ayden and in 1898, the first pupils enrolled. The school was known as the Ayden Seminary and included grades one through high school. It also had a theological department for ministers.

By the mid 1920s the Seminary had grown into a collegiate program and its name was changed to Eureka College. Unfortunately, the Great Depression of the late 1920s and early 1930s forced the closing of the College. The alumni of the Seminary and Eureka, however, provided stable and constructive leadership for Original Free Will Baptists during the generation which followed.

In 1951, Mount Olive College, a successor institution to the Seminary and Eureka, was chartered. Many of the educational leaders who foresaw the need for Mount Olive were former students and others who had been greatly influenced by these predecessor institutions. The Rev. David W. Hansley, first chairman of the Mount Olive Board of Trustees, was pastor of the Ayden Church which had been closely identified with the Seminary and Eureka College from the beginning. The first president of Mount Olive College (1952-1954), the Rev. Lloyd Vernon, a native of Mount Olive, was an alumnus of the Seminary, and the Rev. James A. Evans, the first full-time employee of the College after it located in Mount Olive, was an alumnus of Eureka.

Endowment Fund

At its June, 1983, meeting the alumni and friends who were present voted to establish an endowment at Mount Olive College that will be known as "The Ayden Seminary-Eureka College Endowment Fund." The following statement was unanimously approved:

> In appreciation of the contribution Ayden Seminary, established in 1897, and Eureka College, a successor institution (1925-1931) made to the educational and religious life of its students, the Free Will Baptist Church and the people of North Carolina, the alumni and their families, members of the Free Will Baptist Church and friends of these institutions have established "The Ayden Seminary-Eureka College Endowment Fund" at Mount Olive College.
>
> The purpose of the Endowment shall be to perpetuate the educational and religious heritage of Ayden Seminary and Eureka College through Mount Olive College, a successor institution chartered in 1951 by the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

(Continued on Page 14)

Cape Fear Union Meeting to Be Held

The Cape Fear Union Meeting will be held at Oak Grove Church near Newton Grove, on Saturday, July 30, 1983. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotion, Kenneth Littleton
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response, the Rev. Leonard Woodall
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading of Minutes of Last Union
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Message, the Rev. T. C. Farmer
12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Committees
—Unfinished Business
—Benediction and Adjournment
—Lunch and Christian Fellowship
Moderator, the Rev. Jeff Scarborough
Secretary, Mrs. Ruth Warrick

Fourth Central Union Meeting to Be Held

The Fourth Central Union Meeting will be held at Owens Chapel Church near Elm City, on July 31, 1983. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION
10:00—Sunday School
11:00—Hymn, "Sweet By and By"
—Welcome, Ree Braswell
—Response, Billy Brice
11:15—President's Remarks
—Greetings from the Children's Home
—Mount Olive College Report
—Missions Report
11:30—Special Music, Edgewood Church
—Sermon, the Rev. Melvin Moore

AFTERNOON SESSION
1:15—Hymn, "Send the Light"
—Devotion, the Rev. Ed Thornton
—Committee Reports
—Program, Local Church
2:15—Adjournment

Robbins Graduates

Mr. Franklin Robbins of Tarboro, North Carolina, graduated from Carolina Bible Institute on July 1, 1983. Frank is a member of the First Church in Tarboro.

Ann Winborne Named Woman of the Year

Ann Winborne

The Woman's Auxiliary of Westside Church, Kinston, would like to honor a special lady who has proven many times her love for Christ by her unselfish love and service to others.

In Proverbs 31:20 it states, "She extends her hand to the poor; yea she reacheth forth her hands to the needy." Proverbs 31:10-31 tells of the attributes of a good wife and Verse 20 says she showed love and concern for the poor and needy. The honoree has done this. She has followed Christ's example of caring for the physical needs as a way of winning the confidence of the lost and helping her family in Christ. Everyone who is a Christian knows Jesus is the Way. Every Christian should also know that He is best; but why should the lost believe what a person says, if the life he lives does not prove it? Real concern for others is shown by more than just the annual token of a Christmas fruit basket. The person being honored has shown love and concern to those who needed a friend, campanion, and shoulder to lean upon. She has served in the past by helping with Special Olympics and is presently a member of the Association for Retarded Citizens. She has participated in Westside's outreach ministry at the nursing home and she helped during the Christmas program play practice by taking care of the children. She visits the sick and shut-in bringing them a smile, love, and sharing a chicken dinner. She loves her work in the auxiliary and she's always willing to serve on committees and special projects. It is not unusual to see her with several women arriving in her car. She's always willing to pitch in and help. Truly she has shown her love for Christ because He said, "If you have done it unto the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me." Many go all their lives searching for a place in the body of Christ, wondering what gift or gifts the Lord has given. Many even strive for the more visible gifts, but the honoree has found her place in the body of Christ by serving. She has always participated behind the scenes, always faithful, helping, rather than seeking praise, versatile in that she can adapt to any given situation. Whenever there is a supper or refreshments served at church, she is always found right there in the kitchen washing dishes. She has served and is serving as an auxiliary officer, youth worker and she was once the assistant Sunday school superintendent. Proverbs 17:22 says, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones." The honoree has a merry heart and sense of humor. Many

(Turn the Page)

found this to be the case on the ski retreat in February. She is a born entertainer and she has brought joy and laughter through her skits and games.

She is a wife of 31 years, a mother, a soon-to-be grandmother, a Christian worker, and she has worked for the last 35 years at her public job.

Proverbs 22:1 sums her up, "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold." The special lady's name means grace. She has been described as energetic, friendly, dependable, honest, a real pal, compassionate, and always there in time of sickness and need. When a person sees her, she is usually wearing a big smile.

The Woman's Auxiliary of Westside would like to honor this special lady as the "Woman of the Year." As "Woman of the Year for 1983" she represented Westside Church Auxiliary at Camp Vandemere. Her name is Ann Winborne.

(Continued on Page 14)

NOTICES

It has been reported that Eastwood Church in Fayetteville is closing. This is a false rumor. The Rev. W. S. Burns reports a very successful vacation Bible school with an average of 33 children in attendance. Please pray for this work.

The Cape Fear Ministers' Conference will meet on Monday, July 25, 1983, at 10 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Smithfield Bible and Bookstore, Smithfield. A program is scheduled for the conference.

The Rev. T. C. Farmer, president of the conference, encourages all the Cape Fear ministers to attend.

The Rev. Ted Bryant

Foreign Missions

WHAT IS THE BELIEVER'S RESPONSIBILITY

(This is the first in a series of five articles written by the Rev. Fred Baker.)

The Rev. Fred Baker

Does a person who repents of his sins and receives Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour have any responsibility? Is a believer free to roam and be concerned only for himself? From the dawn of creation until the present hour, the question asked by Cain cannot be silenced. ". . . Am I my brother's keeper?" (Genesis 4:9).

Yes, the free gift of salvation brings to every Christian a God-given responsibility. Jesus spoke so simply in Matthew 22:39: ". . . Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Christianity cannot be a selfish lifestyle. We do have a responsibility.

What exactly is a Christian's responsibility? It is stated by Christ in Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 20:21 and Acts 1:8. We are to obey Him and take the gospel to the ends of the earth to every creature.

The Apostle Paul points out very clearly that this is not a job just for the Twelve, the missionaries or the pastors. "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:18). Every Christian is given the responsibility of his personal ministry of reconciliation.

Reconciliation is bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to all people so they may have the chance to be reconciled to God through Jesus Christ. To each of us, believers, God has given the task of reconciliation or evangelization. This is God's command and will; ". . . not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

The greatest task given to you and me as born-again believers is evangelization. We have many responsibilities but this is supreme. God has provided salvation. God has chosen to use believers to proclaim His salvation to the nations. Also God has provided us with the resources to accomplish this job.

My Christian friends, our responsibility is great. The fate of the people rests in our hands. A sinner that has never heard of Jesus can never lift his eyes in Hell and point his accusing finger at God. God is faithful. The accusing finger will be pointed at those who have not accomplished the assigned task of evangelism. (Read Ezekiel 33:1-9.) Are we personally involved in fulfilling our God given responsibility of evangelization?

Fred Baker
Missionary to the Philippines

JULY IS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MONTH

Home Missions

FIFTH UNION OF EASTERN CONFERENCE
HOME MISSIONS AWARENESS CONFERENCE
JULY 28, 1983

PURPOSE—To stress the importance of Home Missions and to create a "Missionary Zeal" among our Free Will Baptist ministers and their churches.

THEME—"HOME MISSIONS—The Key to Denominational Growth"

TEXT—"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together" (John 4:35, 36).

or

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved" (Jeremiah 8:20).

PLACE—Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Cove City, North Carolina

PROGRAM

Afternoon Session

2:00—Welcome, the Rev. Mike Scott
2:05—Congregational Hymn, the Rev. Dean Kennedy, Song Leader
2:10—Special Music, the Rev. Dean Kennedy, the Rev. Bruce and Judy Jones, Two Selections
2:20—Introduction of Speaker, the Rev. Mike Scott
2:25—The Rev. Charles Crisp, Director of Home Missions
3:00—Congregational Hymn
3:05—Special Music, the Rev. Bruce and Judy Jones, One Selection
3:10—Introduction of Speaker, the Rev. Charles Crisp
3:15—Speaker, the Rev. Walter Sutton, Chairman of Fifth Union of Eastern Conference Missions Board
3:45—Adjournment

Evening Session

7:00—Welcome, the Rev. Charles Crisp
7:05—Congregational Hymn
7:10—Special Music, Two Selections
7:20—Introduction of Speaker, the Rev. Mike Scott
7:25—Speaker, the Rev. D. C. Hansley
8:00—Congregational Hymn
8:05—Statement of Purpose
8:20—Special Music, One Selection
8:25—Introduction of Speaker, the Rev. Charles Crisp
8:30—Sermon, the Rev. Ray Wells
9:00—Benediction

A $50 gift certificate will be given to the pastor who brings the most people. A New Testament on Cassette will be given to the pastor who brings the second largest number of people.

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

"How can a child experience the presence of God? How can I help guide children in their growing relationship with God? When and how can the Bible be taught to children? Can children relate to and understand a parable or a Christian symbol like the Cross? If so, at what stage in their development can they do this? How do children learn?"

As a parent or teacher of children perhaps you have asked yourself some of the above questions? If so, then there is a book written by Iris V. Cully which you will want to read. It is *Christian Child Development.* It was published in 1979, by Harper and Row. It costs $7.95. The author is Professor of Religious Education at Lexington Theological Seminary in Kentucky. She has written numerous books and articles in the area of Christian education.

Christian Child Development gives invaluable insight into how children grow—intellectually, emotionally, morally, religiously—from birth to adolescence. A chapter is devoted to each of these areas of development. Two chapters deal with the role of family and the church community in the child's spiritual development. The last two chapters explore practical ways to teach children and how the Bible speaks to them. The book has an index which makes it a handy reference tool. It can be ordered through one of our bookstores.

Cragmont Assembly

SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULED

If you remember last year Cragmont Assembly held its first Softball Tournament. The purpose of this tournament was to raise funds for Cragmont.

We are proud to announce that the "Second Annual Cragmont Defender Softball Tournament" will take place September 16th and 17th, 1983, at Stantonsburg and Eureka, North Carolina. Therefore, the first 16 teams to make application will play in this tournament. In order to register send your name, address, phone number and a $65 entry fee to John R. Watson, Route 1, Box 522, Wilson, North Carolina 27893; phone: 237-8472.

If you need any other information please contact Mr. Watson. Get your team together and register. You'll be glad you did.

Mount Olive College

COACH DEAN TO DISCUSS NUTRITION AND EXERCISE AT MINISTERS' INSTITUTE

Larry Dean

Larry Dean, baseball coach at Mount Olive College, will discuss "The Minister: His Nutrition and Exercise" as part of the Tuesday afternoon session of the Ministers' Institute at Mount Olive College. The theme for Tuesday's program is THE MINISTER'S HEALTH, GROWTH, AND DEVELOPMENT.

The annual Ministers' Institute begins Monday, August 8, at 9 a.m. in the Henderson Building. The two-day seminar is sponsored jointly by the College and the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists as a program of continuing education for pastors. Registration is $10 per minister.

Coach Dean said that he selected his topic because "in helping others with their problems, a minister often neglects his own health. An exercise program can serve as an outlet for the minister who may be required to attend to the needs of others at all hours of the day or night. Eating a balanced diet can further reduce tension for the minister and ward off depression."

"Ministers need to learn to take care of themselves physically so they can better minister to the spiritual needs of others," said Coach Dean.

Calvin Mercer, professor of religion at the College, will conclude Tuesday's session with a discussion of "The Biblical Concept of Prayer and Fasting."

REGISTER NOW FOR THE FALL SEMESTER

A limited number of openings are still available for the fall semester at Mount Olive College for students who have not yet finalized their plans. All Free Will Baptists who enroll at Mount Olive College receive a $1,000 tuition grant annually.

Residence halls will open for new and returning students on Sunday, August 28. Orientation and educational advising for students will continue through Monday, August 29. Registration will be on Tuesday, August 30, and classes will begin on Wednesday, August 31.

All in-coming freshmen are tested individually in the areas of English and math and given a career assessment inventory. They are then assigned to classes on the basis of the results. For more information on registration, call the Admissions Office at (919) 658-2502.

RETIREMENT HOMES

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
June, 1983
Total $2,514.76

ALBEMARLE	
St. Paul	$ 10.00
Total	$ 10.00
CAPE FEAR	
Casey's Chapel	$ 75.00
Goldsboro, First	250.00
Total	$325.00
CENTRAL	
Daniels Chapel	$ 50.00
Edgewood	5.00
Friendship	500.00
Hugo	25.00
Ormondsville	100.00
Rocky Mount, First	25.00
Saratoga	85.00
Tarboro, First	125.00
Union Number 2	13.51
Total	$928.51
EASTERN	
Dublin Grove	$ 15.00
Macedonia	300.00
Oriental	5.00
Piney Grove	50.00
Smith's New Home	40.00
Union Number 5	30.00
Welcome Home	50.00
Total	$490.00
PEE DEE	
Mission Valley	$ 25.00
Oak Grove	38.75
Total	$ 63.75
WESTERN	
Fremont	$100.00
Friendship	100.00
Piney Grove	62.50
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Rosebud	50.00
Sherron Acres	25.00
Spring Hill	125.00
St. Mary's	100.00
Union Number 2	30.00
Total	$692.50
OTHERS	
Saint Cloud, Florida, First	$ 5.00
Total	$ 5.00

COMING EVENTS

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

July 25-30—Young Peoples Bible Conference, the Rev. Sam Weeks, director; Cragmont

July 31—Mount Olive Day in Local Churches

July 31—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention

August—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as State Convention Promotional Month

August 2—The Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes will meet at 10 a.m., in Memorial Chapel Church, Middlesex

August 3—Church Finance Board of Directors Meeting, Headquarters Building, Ayden

For July 24

NAAMAN: RELUCTANT FOLLOWER

Lesson Text: 2 Kings 5:1-5, 9-14
Memory Verse: 2 Kings 5:14

I. INTRODUCTION

If one were seeking a parable of life, he could scarcely find a better than in the account of Naaman the leper. Not that the story is make-believe; the events it records are very real. It is this very realism that makes the story so suitable as an allegory, for it is indeed the story of man summarized. In a measure, we believe that every human being can identify with Naaman in broad perspective, if not in particulars. Here is a paradigm of life. If we understand it, we shall see unfolded to us the way of possible fulfillment in our own lives.

Humankind, created in the likeness and image of God, has great potential. God has given man dominion over the earth, with the ability to be creative with that which God made and which He pronounced good. For example, man can take the wild rose, and working together with God produce an American Beauty or a Blaze. As for the application of modern technology, the possibilities open to man overwhelm the mind.

The potential of the individual is great also. A baby is born, helpless and dependent, yet with a personality of its own, even at birth. What great possibilities are here! As the life unfolds, there are dreams and ambitions, with the greatest potential being the power to become a child of God (John 1:12). What great promise this holds for a life that is significant, full, and satisfying!

But, also present in the world are counterforces that challenge a person's realization of his or her potential. Even such a one as the Apostle Paul experienced this. "When I would do good, evil is present with me," he wrote (Romans 7:21). And he cried out, "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me?" (7:24). To every person at some time comes the realization of his own inadequacy.

Dismal indeed would be the hope of mankind if there were no answer to Paul's question. But deliverance is available to us. That is the good news the Bible bears to all who will receive it. God makes victorious living possible. He offers us an alternative to defeat. It *is* an offer, however, and can be accepted or rejected. If it is to be effective for us, we must respond. We must be willing to take God at His Word by an act of faith. This Naaman did, with happy results. Let us study carefully the record of this man's experience for the light it can shed on our own relationship to life and to God.

To what should we attribute the healing of Naaman? Was it not a matter of the grace of God—grace shown even to this erstwhile enemy of Israel? "By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8). The goodness and mercy of God are beyond compare.

But other factors were involved. One was the captive servant girl. Had it not been for her, Naaman would not have known of the grace available. The message of salvation must be made known, for if it is hid, "it is hid to them that are lost" (2 Corinthians 4:3; see also Romans 10:13-15).

It was also necessary that Naaman receive the divinely given instructions if he would be healed. "I thought," he said, and that almost led him to reject the plain teaching of the Lord. Today many people lay claim to some inner illumination, but will they prefer this over against the simple plan of salvation as set forth in the Word of God? If so, is this not a rejection of God and His offer of pardon?

Finally, it was necessary for Naaman to obey the instructions of the Lord. He did not ask how his washing in the Jordan could effect a cure. Surely he did not suppose that the water possessed any magical qualities, nor do we believe that. But the fact remains that it was only after he dipped himself the seven specified times that he was healed of his leprosy.

When Jesus calls us to repent, to confess Him as Lord, and to be buried with Him in baptism in the likeness of His death, to rise to a new life, we need not question why. We need only to respond in faith and obedience. Following that, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God" (Colossians 3:1).—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. We sometimes get the idea that only poor people have trouble, but in the case of Naaman we see a powerful man who it seems had everything that one could want except that he had leprosy. Trouble is no respecter of persons. It comes to all kinds of people.

B. Why would Naaman expect to get preferential treatment in Israel? He had become accustomed to it in his own country. It is easy for us to get the idea that men should look up to us and give us preferential treatment because of who we are.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, JULY 24

Scripture Reading—Matthew 27:27-66

I LAY IN DUST LIFE'S GLORY DEAL

While in the heyday of his wondrous work among the Indians, David Brainerd died. Some would say, "What hopes for Christ's cause went down to the grave with the wasted form of that totally dedicated missionary. All there was to show for his sacrificial labors were a few score Indian converts!" Such deduction might be measurably true if we failed to reckon with the fact that one's influence never dies. After Brainerd's death, Jonathan Edwards wrote the memorials of Brainerd in a little book. It found its way across the sea, and was placed on the table of a brilliant Cambridge student, Henry Martyn. The little book brought great inspiration and challenge to him. For the Lord's sake, he utterly dedicated himself as a missionary. Concerning Him the world would ask, "Why should he throw away his scholarship and worldly honors and riches for the sufferings and privations of a missionary?" He labored for many years. Then, when broken in health, he trekked northward. Reaching the Black Sea, his triumphant soul left his broken body.

Out of the early graves of Brainerd and Martyn sprung the noble army of modern missionaries.

We can say of them, "For the Lord's sake, 'they loved not their lives unto the death.' "

MONDAY, JULY 25

Scripture Reading—Matthew 28

THEY VOLUNTARILY BECAME SLAVES

When Moravian missionaries went with the gospel message to the West Indies, it was almost impossible to reach the natives because at the break of day the natives were driven to their hard work where they remained until darkness settled over the land. At night, they would eat their coarse meal and fall, exhausted, onto their beds. After much waiting before God in prayer, the Moravian missionaries decided that they would voluntarily become slaves and work alongside the natives so that they could tell them the story of Jesus!

The world today is almost totally pagan because so many are only half Christian when it comes to self-crucifying service for God and man.

TUESDAY, JULY 26

Scripture Reading—Mark 1, 2

HAST THOU NO SCAR?

Hast thou no scar
No hidden scar on foot, or side, or hand?
I hear thee sung as mighty in the land,
I hear them hail thy bright ascendant star?

Hast thou no wound?
Yet I was wounded by the archers, spent,
Leaned me against a tree to die; and rent
By ravening beasts that compassed me, I swooned:
Hast thou no wound?

No wound? No scar?
Yet, as the Master shall the servant be,
And pierced are the feet that follow Me;
But thine are whole: can he have followed far
Who has no wound nor scar?

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27

Scripture Reading—Mark 3

WHERE ARE THE MEN?

One of God's heroines, a missionary nurse to Africa, didn't *die* for Christ—she *lived* for Him. She deemed herself expendable, daily wearing down as she responded to the incessant calls from suffering ones. Let us follow her on a typical day's work: She arose at daybreak and began her daily routine. Already scores of outpatients were then gathered at the nearby mission compound. For hours she dressed their sores, speaking a word to each one of them of the great Physician, Jesus. Having treated 308 patients, she went over the hills and through the valleys where others awaited her healing ministry. She had not gone far, however, until she toppled over through sheer fatigue. The native helper accompanying her asked a question which should shame and challenge us, "Why don't men come out here to help you?"

God, forgive us. Help us to take up our cross and live for you—the One who died for us.

THURSDAY, JULY 28

Scripture Reading—Mark 4

HE COUNTED THE COST

I remember an earnest and effective layman in Ecuador who felt called to God's service in the

ministry, but his wife would not hear of it. She threatened all kinds of reprisals if he should leave his lucrative employment to become a servant of the Lord Jesus. One evening he came to me, with a bundle under one arm and tears in his eyes. I read the following verses to him: "Verily I say unto you, there is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's but shall receive an hundredfold, now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life" (Mark 10:29, 30). After prayers and tears, I inquired, "And what have you in the bundle?" "It contains my working clothes. I left my employment today!"

He had counted the cost, and had set himself to leave all . . . . And do we wonder that he won his wife to full allegiance to the Master, and that together they have become pillars in the house of God?

FRIDAY, JULY 29

Scripture Reading—Mark 5

NO STRENGTH TO SACRIFICE

At the close of a Lord's day which had been filled with loving service for God and others, a weary mother sat quietly in church for the evening service. The pastor's message was an earnest plea to sacrifice one's money and life. Who would say aught against any servant of God pleading for sacrificial giving and living when most of us live like kings, and when few, if any, of us can say with Paul: "Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things" (Philippians 3:8)? The overworked mother, whose life had been fully dedicated to God from her earliest childhood days, remarked as she wearily went homeward, "Honestly, I am so tired in body and mind that I have no strength to sacrifice anything." The one to whom she spoke understood fully, and so did her Heavenly Father.

There are only two kinds of religion in the world. The one says, "Nothing in my hands I bring"; the other says, "Something in my hands I bring."

SATURDAY, JULY 30

Scripture Reading—Mark 6

JESUS, I'M DOING THIS FOR THEE

Mrs. Comstock was a great missionary to India. When it came time for her children to go to her native land to be educated, she had to make a heart-wrenching decision: "Shall I send them there and stay here with my chain of mission stations? Or shall I go with them and be separated for years from the mission field?" It wasn't an easy decision for her to make. Children are gifts from God. All of them need a mother's care and love. She fought the battle out and said, "I will stay here by the task. I will put my children in the care of loved ones and in the care of the Saviour!" The day came for their departure. She prayed for them. She placed them on a ship. She saw her children going farther and farther from her and waving their handkerchiefs. When she could no longer see them, she knelt on the sand and said over and over again: "Lord Jesus, I am doing this for Thee. I am putting Thee before my girls!" She went back to her work.

She had the joy of seeing many people "delivered . . . from the power of darkness, and . . . translated into the kingdom of [God's] dear Son!"

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

MAN IS A STUDENT OF TRUTH

by R. P. Harris

Jesus said, ". . . I am the way, *the truth,* and the life" (John 14:6). He is not *a truth,* but He is *The Truth.* God is truth and no man can have the truth, unless he has God. This is the truth that sets a man free and saves his soul. Jesus Christ is the Truth Incarnate. Man is ever in search for the truth in all his affairs, but he will never find the truth until he finds the Lord. Christ is the answer. (Then again, how can a man be convinced that Christ is divine and the Leader and King of men unless His Spirit declares Him to be Lord of all?)

"The highest and best energies of the soul only cry out as God's voice calls them into consciousness, service, and cooperation" (J. Matthews).

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

The Endowment shall consist of gifts made to Mount Olive College for this purpose. The principal of the Endowment shall be invested according to fiduciary policies established by the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees and the earnings of the Endowment shall be used to advance the general purposes of the College.

AYDEN SEMINARY-
EUREKA COLLEGE ALUMNI
AND HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION

Leonard Earl Harris, *President*
Mrs. Jolly Stokes, *Secretary*"

$100,000 ENDOWMENT GOAL

It is the intention of the alumni of Ayden Seminary and Eureka College, their families and friends, to make the Endowment a worthy tribute to their Alma Mater and a meaningful investment in continuing the work of Christian higher education through Mount Olive College.

We are seeking fifty (50) families who were associated with the Seminary and Eureka College who will give $1,000 each. These funds will be placed on investment with compound interest for seven years during which time the original $50,000 will increase to $100,000. The income from this $100,000 will then be used to advance the general work of Mount Olive College.

An appropriate plaque that will recognize the gifts of these donors will be placed at Mount Olive College. For more information, alumni, relatives and friends are encouraged to contact: Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; telephone 919/658-2502.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 7)

The Rev. C. M. Coats Receives Plaque

On March 13, 1983, the Rev. C. M. Coats, 208 Hancock Street, Smithfield, resigned from Riverside Church, Cape Fear Conference, Johnston County, Route 1, Princeton, after serving seventeen years as pastor. On Sunday, May 29, the church presented him a plaque for his services and had an appreciation luncheon.

On June 19, 1983, at Melvin Allen's pond, he baptized 4 new candidates. They were Susan King, Benny King, Carson McCullen, and Paris Penny, with Butch Penny joining the church, too. This made 19 new candidates during the last 12 years that Mr. Coats has served at Riverside Church.

The people at Riverside love Mr. Coats and feel he will say: "I'll go where you want me to go; I'll do what you want me to do; Purge me with hyssop and cleanse me, that I may go forth and continue in your Word and become the disciple you want me to be."

CHURCH AVAILABLE

Sound Side Church, Columbia, North Carolina, is in need of a pastor. Anyone desiring to talk with this part-time church concerning this pastorate should contact Mr. Edmund Brickhouse by calling him at (919) 796-1841.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

Mr. Doug Brown, a licensed minister from Cathedral Church, Durham, would like to announce that he is available for pastoral services, revivals, or special youth services. He is a member of the Piedmont Conference. He can be contacted by writing him at 2901 Purvis Road, Durham, NC 27704; or by phone, (919) 682-7113.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

—*Special arrangements* **can** *even be made for those who are only used to seeing the preacher during times of sickness, trouble, or death.*

—*Now sit back, brothers and sisters; since all of this is being done, we cannot forget to tell you that the preacher is also making special plans for this service. Since he feels he will never see some again until next Homecoming, Christmas, or Easter, he has decided to check into a specialized clinic soon. Because of the necessity of being all things to all people, he will take on a dual personality and be transformed into a twenty-five-year-old "blond, blue-eyed" example of masculine perfection. Not bad considering he will have between thirty and thirty-five years of experience.*

The excuses we use are but an indication of the importance Christ has in our lives. We should give our Christian commitment the same direction, attention, and considerations we do the business, recreational, and educational phases of our lives.

See you at church Sunday!

Janie

CAMP VANDEMERE FAITH FUND

AN OPEN LETTER

TO: All Pastors and Members of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina and Friends of Camp Vandemere

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A great day has arrived for your Camp located on the beautiful Bay River in Vandemere, North Carolina.

After much prayer and discussion as to what the Lord would have the Board of Directors do in regards to liquidating the debt at Camp Vandemere, we feel the Lord has led us to start a campaign to pay off this debt by July 1, 1984.

Board members (present and past) have already promised or given over $10,000 toward the liquidation of this debt. A good start has been made.

All monies received through the Camp Vandemere Faith Fund will go toward the principal indebtedness minus costs of campaign expenses. Monthly payments must continue to be made from contributions received from the local churches, therefore we are not asking the churches to take part in this campaign. This campaign is for individuals and businesses only. We request the local churches continue to send in their monthly support so the monthly obligations will continue to be paid.

We are asking for as many of our people who will to give $10 per month for 12 months. If you cannot give $10 then give $5 or $1 per month. You may want to give a one-time gift of $1,000, $500, $50, $20, or some other amount. Or you may want to give a larger amount such as $1,000 or $500 or more over the next 12 months. Whatever you give will help to pay off the debt of Camp Vandemere and permit it to move on to greater things in the work of the Lord.

You may ask the question, Why pay off Camp Vandemere's indebtedness? Interest is eating up monies that could be used to advance the Kingdom of God. If we continue to pay off this debt at our set rate for the next 12 years, we will pay in interest alone over $93,000. This interest would provide many of the things needed to bring Camp Vandemere up to the camp we want for our people. If we are to multiply that which our Lord has trusted us with we must put it where it will earn dividends, not pay them.

Many things need to be done to make Camp Vandemere a better and more attractive place to go. We need a swimming pool; an improved ball field; more recreational equipment; picnic shelters; and family-type quarters (such as the main building at Cragmont) where families can stay together with some privacy.

With the debt paid off, we can go ahead with these improvements, which will bring more of our people to Camp and give a greater opportunity to share God's plan of salvation, resulting in many new converts.

So by faith, will you right now ask God what He will have you **give**? Then complete the commitment below and return it with your promise for this month or your one-time gift to the following address:

Camp Vandemere Faith Fund
Wachovia Bank & Trust Company
Marie Whitford
P.O. Box 406
Vanceboro, North Carolina 28586

God bless you richly. Thank you for becoming a Camp Vandemere Faith Fund Partner.

Yours in His Service,
L. Grady Tucker, *Director*
Camp Vandemere Faith Fund

CAMP VANDEMERE FAITH FUND RECEIPT

Donor_____

_____

AMOUNT _____

RECEIVED BY VOLUNTEER

_____

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NO._____ OF 12

MONTHLY GIFTS

DATE_____

CAMP VANDEMERE - FAITH FUND

To support its commitment to Christian recreation I (we) will give:

A one time donation of $_____

A monthly donation of $_____ per month for twelve (12) months.

Please make checks payable to Camp Vandemere Faith Fund

_____

DONOR_____

ADDRESS_____ HOME PHONE_____

CITY _____ STATE_____ZIP_____

Business (Firm & Address)_____

Free Will Baptist Church _____Conference_____

Signature_____

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

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Editorial

"Give Me Just a Minute!"

You know how it goes: *things* have been hard at work—everything is running behind schedule; a good number of the key people have not been in for several days; equipment has broken down, throwing everything out of kilter. To make matters worse, traffic was bad on the way home; someone said they were paving the road or something. You had just gotten in the door good when your spouse asks you to do some small task. "Just a minute," you reply, while settling down in your favorite chair with a freshly brewed cup of coffee. And the minutes pass . . . and the task remains undone.

We all face this situation and usually many times during the course of a day, for whenever there is a job to be done, an errand to be run, the immediate answer is always the same: "Give me just a minute!" The trouble is, those long minutes usually become hours—and sometimes a "never."

Now this problem is characteristically found among children; *but* "be ye not deceived," there are many adults who seem to adopt such a policy, especially when they face some disagreeable duty in life. Perhaps they feel that by putting off difficult problems and tasks, they—the problems—will be easier to face and solve tomorrow. Meanwhile, the problem becomes more critical and much harder to solve.

The habit of postponement does not always have grave consequences. (Yes, I know how trash can smell.) But it normally paves the way to hardships. For example, "fighting" ungodliness is not always a pleasant task. It is much easier to become tolerant and lax in discipline. Taking the side of truth may be inconvenient—sticking one's neck out usually is. But compromising has brought on terrible tragedies.

Our Church is none the better because of our procrastination. (And I do realize the trouble that can be caused by jumping too quickly or when someone assumes another individual's responsibilities—for whatever the reasons.) Many will never hear the gospel because of our lackadaisical attitudes. (And I'm sure you all think everyone has heard of God's amazing grace—this is not the case!) Programs and ministries will never be launched because we are waiting for a more convenient season.

The institutions and enterprises which we sponsor cannot get by without us. Usually, though, we never get around to lending a helping hand. First of all, we had rather criticize them because they do not operate according to our specifications. (We wonder when they are going to realize that we have all the answers!) Then if we do offer to help, we do so with such arrogance that we are not tolerable. Rare is the occasion when someone says, "Thank you!" "I'm praying for you," "Can I help in some way to lighten the burden?".

Our fellowman is also in need of our help. When was the last time you sat down and really talked to someone? I must admit it had been a long time since I had done so—but I did several weeks ago. My friend and I are both better now for the

(Continued on Page 14)

THEOLOGICAL CONTENT OF TEACHING

by De Wayne Eakes

We need to be very judicious in the type of theological content that makes up the body of the material that is presented week after week in the Sunday school classroom. Our teachers need to be trained to "think theologically." We can accomplish this by having them become informed of our own doctrinal beliefs. Teachers need to learn to be selective in the materials they use as pertains to theological content. Every book that is written and every TV preacher does not deserve to be quoted. There are at least four basic questions a teacher should ask prior to presenting any theological statement. (If you talk or teach about God as He has revealed Himself to us and our relationship to Him you are speaking theologically.)

> (1) Is this a positive nurturing statement? (2) Does it impart helpful information that leads to nurture and growth in the faith? (3) Is it in keeping with the New Testament witness to the Christian Faith (be careful with the Old Testament themes; all are pre-Christian and some are sub-Christian, i.e., Samson's exploits, Abraham's willingness to accept child sacrifice, the concept of "Holy War")? (4) Does it agree with the *Articles of Faith* of Original Free Will Baptists?

We need to teach our faith but we need to assure a high quality of theological content.

"Christianity should be taught because it is true, because it answers the deepest needs of human nature, and without a knowledge of the love of God and a relationship with Him men and women will love impoverished lives" . . . .[1] The center of teaching of the Christian faith is love. There is a sense in which Augustine's statement, "Love God and do as you like," is good Christian theology. If you follow God's *law of love* then everything in your life and conduct will be consistent with that law of love. Paul declared love to be the greatest of God's gifts (1 Corinthians 13:13). Jesus stated that to love God above all else and your neighbor as yourself was the greatest of all the commandments (Mark 12:29-31). "The Christian Ethic" is the law of love. We do not have a system laying down specific commands for each and every situation of life. What we do have is this supreme commandment. We have the task, in developing a Christian Theology of Education, of teaching our students to think making the law of love applicable in any given situation. This becomes our moral authority.

> The major emphasis in Christian education . . . should be upon the basis of moral authority; namely belief in God and the nature of our relationship with Him. If there is no emotional conviction that God is, that He is love, and that intellectually and experientially this is all of a piece with the whole of life, no appeal to religion as moral authority is of any value.[2]

How the Christian faith is presented in the Sunday school classroom is tremendously important. We can either impart a good solid Christian theology or a "sick theology." "The Christian faith centers in the understanding and the acceptance of Jesus as the Christ . . . . In traditional language God became man as the Word became flesh. It is the Incarnate Word that constitutes the center of the Christian faith."[3] We need to be careful to keep our theology "Christian," that is, centered in the person, life, ministry and teachings of Christ.

Let's briefly discuss the presentation of several major theological concepts of the Christian faith. How do you present the basic doctrine of God? What kind of word picture do you paint of God for your students? Is God seen as a stern taskmaster who will "get you" if you disobey Him and who is ever-waiting to condemn eternally the unrepentant? Or is God seen as Creator, Sustainer, and Saviour of His people? A God who cares for His people and hurts with them and agonizes over their lostness. A God, who in a mighty art of divine love provided for all men's salvation in the Incarnation. He is not a distant, unapproachable deity, He is available to all and with us in all of life.

How do we see Jesus? Do we leave Him "gentle Jesus meek and mild" or do we present the courageous, answering, sacrificial love which characterized His mission of redemption made possible for all who believe? Do we present His "call to discipleship" as a "take or

(Turn the Page)

leave it" choice or do we communicate the urgency and ultimate meaning of the "call to discipleship" which Christ issues to all people?

When we talk about the Holy Spirit what kind of image do we communicate? Some teachings and preaching about the Holy Spirit sound more like something out of Shakespeare than out of the Scripture. The Holy Spirit is God's convicting, guiding, illuminating, saving and comforting presence felt in the midst of human experience. The Holy Spirit is not some halloweenish ghoul. It is the presence of the Divine in our midst today.

When we begin to teach about prayer what kind of information do we give or what kind of ideas come forth? When we teach about prayer consult the Scriptures. The Psalms have many beautiful prayers. The Lord's Prayer (model prayer) as Jesus taught His disciples to pray. The "High Priestly Prayer" of Jesus in John 17:1ff. Some popular ideas about prayer are very non-Biblical and sub-Christian. Prayer is not a matter of putting in 45¢ worth of prayer and getting our 45¢ worth of blessings. Prayer needs to be seen as basic communication with God. Prayer is not just talking on our part; it involves listening. Meaningful prayer is a two-way communication. The believer speaks to God . . . then listens so the voice of God may be clearly discerned. Prayer has many elements, petition, thanksgiving, consecration, dedication, intercession, confession and listening. Prayer is necessary fuel for faithful living. It is the surrendering of our will to His will if it is to be effective and productive prayer.

The Bible is often argued about from various modes of interpretation. What is the Bible? It is God's Holy Word, the written Word of God which leads us to the Christ, the Living Word of God. It is salvation—history. It records God's mighty and miraculous acts in effecting the salvation of His people from ancient Israel to modern twentieth century man. The Bible is timeless in its truths because its source, God, is not confined to time and space. The Bible is the primary source of strength, hope and guidance for the Christian life. It is "the Book" unlike any other book in any other discipline of human knowledge and should not be compared with other disciplines such as secular history or science. The Bible's message is always *more* than the factual information it presents. For instance, in the popular evolutionism vs. creationism debates the "Word of Life" gets lost in the rubble of empty rhetoric from both camps. Why did the Biblical writer pen the story of creation? What does it mean for humankind? What does this say to our relationship with God? These are the more pressing questions. The Biblical writer says God willed creation and it was. All the sophistries of the current debate are rather pointless and doomed to produce only heat, not light, on the subject of creation.

How do we present the ideas of "good and evil" in our teachings? Do we go back to the pre-Christian idea that good is rewarded by material blessings and evil is punished by a lack of the same. You can certainly hear such talk in current religious circles today. Job in the Old Testament had trouble with that concept. Jesus said in Matthew 5:4, 5, 6 ". . . for He makes his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust." Personal calamity is not to be equated with retribution for evil, and prosperity does not indicate special favor from God. God's blessings flow to all people and none are exempt from the powers of evil in this world.

Another area we need to be careful about in our theology is the area of teaching about the devil. A young mother stopped taking her children to Sunday school for a while because a teacher had so frightened a small child with stories about the devil that the child could not sleep for several nights. (This was an Original Free Will Baptist Church). If you are not careful you will develop a cosmic dualism between God and Satan. You will create an idea of two "super-powers" (God and Satan) struggling for possession of the human soul. When you read the New Testament witness that is not the kind of picture you see. God is sovereign, the victory over sin and Satan has been won for all who will receive and follow the Christ in discipleship.

Do we communicate the idea of discipleship—the idea of Christianity as a calling to minister and serve in building and extending the Kingdom of God among God's people? As Christians our calling is the same as Abraham's was; we are called to be blessed by receiving salvation and to be a blessing to people around us.

What about the concepts of Heaven and Hell? Is Heaven only a future place to which we go following physical death? Is talk about Heaven only a desire to escape a less than satisfactory life on earth? Or is Heaven a state of "being at one with God"—a state of being which begins at conversion, grows throughout our Christian experience (sanctification) and is culminated when we are with God in glory?

Why go into all the gory details of fire and brimstone as a popular so-called "Christian film" does which should be "R" rated because of violence? Do we hope to "scare people into salvation"? Or brow-beat them into Heaven? Hell is the absence of oneness with God; it is alienation of the creative from the Creator; it

(Continued on Page 13)

NOTE BURNING SERVICE HELD AT PINEY GROVE CHURCH

In the early seventies, the members of Piney Grove Church, of Pitt County, were really seeing the need of possibly erecting a new sanctuary to serve the congregation. Although the old sanctuary was still serving its purpose as it had for many years, it was in a state of needing many repairs. Additional classrooms were needed and the day had come that central air-conditioning was a necessity rather than a luxury. In 1973, with faith in God, the members went all out to secure donations and pledges to get the groundwork under way.

On January 23, 1974, there was a called business meeting of the church to hear a report from the new building committee. Serving on this committee were Burnice Smith, chairman; Jay Boswell, Leon Joyner, Linwood Smith, William Tripp, and Curtis Worthington. In their report, they offered the following recommendations: (1) adoption of prepared church plans as presented to the church, (2) authorization for the committee to obtain needed estimates, (3) authorization for the committee to work with the finance committee in determining how to finance the proposed building project and (4) responsibility of reporting the findings to the church for church action.

In May of 1974, it was quite a sad day since the old sanctuary was moved away, having been given to another congregation just for the expense of getting it moved. In the same month, the groundwork for the new sanctuary was laid and the erection really got under way in earnest. The church is very thankful to the members who not only gave of their financial means, but many hours of labor which saved a great deal of expense in the construction. It is sure that through their labor of love, that there were received manifold blessings from God.

On September 14, 1975, the people from Piney Grove had their first homecoming in the new sanctuary which was a special service in itself for giving thanks to God in making their dream a reality. They were very proud of the building which had been appraised at $120,000. However, it was stressed that it would be worthless if the people who make up the church were not fully dedicated to His service. Up until this time, the members had been very generous in their gifts since they only had to secure a loan for $48,585 payable over a seventeen-year period.

At the quarterly business meeting in March, 1982, the members went on record to make an all out effort to finish payment of the loan by September, 1982, at its annual homecoming. A project immediately got under way for members to purchase a brick which were priced at $500 each. The response was tremendous and very gratifying.

At the Sunday morning service on December 26, 1982, the members offered praises unto God for on that date, contributions were received to take care of the final balance of the loan.

With thanksgiving in the congregation's hearts, a note burning service was held on May 15, 1983.

Albemarle Conference Meetings Scheduled

Union Chapel Church, near Plymouth, will host the Albemarle Union Meeting, on July 30, 1983. Mount Zion Church, near Roper, will host the Albemarle League Convention on the same day. The scheduled programs are as follows:

UNION MEETING

OPENING SESSION

Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Robert May

10:10—Welcome, the Rev. Swade Benson

—Response, the Rev. David Thick

10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charles Overton

10:20—Roll Call of Ministers

—Recognition of Visiting Ministers

—Roll Call of Churches

10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises

—Announcements

—Prayer Time

(Turn the Page)

BUSINESS SESSION
10:40—Report of Children's Home, via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, via Literature
—Report of Press, via Literature
—Report of Missions, via Literature
—Report of Cragmont, via Literature
—Report of Retirement Homes, via Literature
10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Anouncements of Next Union
11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

MORNING WORSHIP
11:00—Hymn
11:20—Special Music, Host Church
11:25—Message, the Rev. Bobby Brown
—Adjournment and Lunch

LEAGUE CONVENTION
7:30—Devotions, Mr. Dean Jones
7:40—President's Message, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill
—Hymn
—Recognition of Ministers
—Announcements
—Special Music
—League Program
—Minutes of Last Convention
—Business of Digest Committee
—Report of Digest Committee
—Awarding of Banners and Picture
—Treasurer's Report
—Minutes Read and Approved
—Adjournment
Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

NOTICE

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet on Saturday, July 30, 1983, with Pleasant Hill Church, in Wayne County. All ministers and friends of the Western Conference are invited to come and share the day with us.

Ken Forehand, *Clerk*

JULY IS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MONTH

MAY'S CHAPEL CHOOSES WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Edythe May Blanton and her mother, Mrs. Nellie Gray Outlaw. They are the daughter and granddaughter of the late Mrs. May Rouse of May's Chapel Church.

May's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, near Dudley, recently chose their Woman of the Year. She is the daughter of Nellie Gray Outlaw and the late Roy J. Outlaw of Dudley, North Carolina. She has two brothers Jimmie and Bobbie, also of Dudley.

She is a graduate of Brogden High School, Dudley, North Carolina, and of East Carolina University, where she received a B. S. Degree in 1967, and her Master's Degree in Physical Education in 1968.

Edythe May Outlaw Blanton is married to Arnold Blanton and they have two children Candi Lynn, age 10, and Christa Leigh, age 7.

Edythe received Christ as her Saviour and became a member of May's Chapel in 1956. She taught Primary Sunday School class for four years, has been church organist for approximately six years, co-worker with YFAs and AFCs for three years and is a substitute Sunday school teacher.

Not only an active member of her church, Edythe is also noted for her work at Cherry Hospital where she was employed in 1969 as a Recreation Therapist. In 1971, she became Volunteer Service Director and coordinates such programs as Forgotten Patient Programs, Ward Parties, Ward Beautification, Cherry Community Church activities, Cherry Community Recreation Events, and "Operation Santa Claus."

She schedules and conducts tours of Cherry Hospital's programs and facilities for any interested group or individual. Her supervisory responsibility is administrative in nature. She has skills and knowledge of personal management, human psychology and public speaking. She is aware of community resources and also the appropriate methods of working with the news media. She has the sound knowledge of the hospital's purposes, goals, programs, policies, and

(Continued on Page 14)

APPOINTMENTS IN STUDENT SERVICES

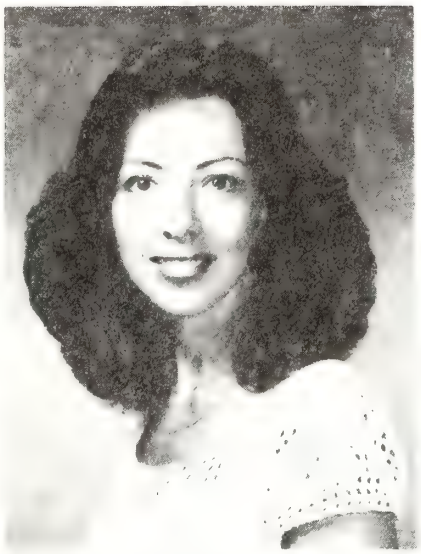
Caroline Castelloe

Caroline Castelloe will begin the 1983-84 academic year at Mount Olive College as Registrar. Formerly Director of Counseling, Miss Castelloe is beginning her nineteenth year of employment at the College. She has served MOC for three years in student services as Director of Counseling and for 15 years as a professor in the math department. Her appointment as Registrar was effective July 1.

Miss Castelloe holds a B.S. and a M.A. degree from East Carolina University, and she has done post-graduate studies at Florida State University and North Carolina State University. She is a member of Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro.

Miss Castelloe will be replaced by Victoria (Vicky) Lynn Norment, who will serve Mount Olive as Director of Counseling and Placement Services. Mrs. Norment holds a bachelor's degree in music education from Furman University and a master's degree in counseling from the University of South Carolina. Her appointment will be effective August 1.

Mrs. Norment was most recently employed as a high



Mrs. Victoria Lynn Norment

school guidance counselor with the Darlington County School District in South Carolina. Her experience also includes serving as Career Counselor and Acting Director of Admissions for Florence-Darlington Technical College in South Carolina and as an Admissions Counselor for Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. At Mount Olive, she will also be an Assistant in Admissions.

In announcing the transfer of Miss Castelloe to the Registrar's Office and the employment of Mrs. Norment in the Counseling Office, President W. Burkette Raper declared, "These appointments represent forward steps toward the preparation of Mount Olive to become a four-year college."

"Miss Castelloe's eighteen years of experience at Mount Olive and her known administrative abilities will help assure the effective operation of the Registrar's Office for a senior college program. Mrs. Norment's successful work as a high school counselor, admissions officer in a four-year college, and her experience in a public two-year college will be available to us in relating our four-year program to both high schools and community colleges."

A TOTAL PREPARATION FOR THE MINISTRY

Cecil Blackmon (left), a second-year ministerial student at MOC, discusses a research project with Dr. Michael Pelt, religion professor. Cecil took Old Testament under Dr. Pelt this past year.

James Cecil Blackmon, who describes his education experience as a "rebirth," will be a second-year ministerial student this fall at Mount Olive College. Formerly a truck driver from the Meadow Community in Johnston County, Cecil is doing his traveling mentally these days rather than on the road in an 18-wheeler truck.

"You see," he explained, "my concept of what a pastor is goes beyond the pulpit to the other six days of the week—to the psychological and emotional needs of the congregation. I needed an education to be able to minister to the total person."

Cecil and his wife, Hulda, and their two children, James Allen, age 13, and Cecil Scott, age 8, moved to Mount Olive in the summer of 1982. Since that time, there have been many changes for the whole family.

"But I took the message in 2 Timothy 2:15 as a command to prepare myself in all areas when I accepted the call," Cecil explained.

The children had to adjust to a new school and the whole family has had to adapt to a different life-style. Hulda works in the cafeteria full-time during the academic year and Cecil

(Continued on Page 14)

CHILDREN'S HOME HAS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Rev. Bobby R. Taylor

The Rev. Bobby R. Taylor has been hired by the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home for the position of Executive Director, effective as of July 1, 1983. Mr. Taylor will be filling the vacancy left by the resignation of the Home's last Executive Director, E. Howard Cayton.

Mr. Taylor came to the Children's Home as Director of Child Care December 1, 1982, and has made many progressive changes in the child care program since that time. The board felt that Mr. Taylor had the leadership qualities necessary for the Director of the Home, as his past work performance, both at the Home and in other positions, have all been very satisfactory.

Having received an A. A. degree at Mount Olive College, Mr. Taylor went on to receive an A. B. degree at Atlantic Christian College and continued graduate study at East Carolina University. Mr. Taylor held various positions before entering the ministry. He first served as interim pastor at Living Waters Free Will Baptist Church, and then went on to serve as pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church at Warsaw, Snow Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Bethany Free Will Baptist Church (Winterville), Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, and Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church (Pikeville).

Mr. Taylor was born and raised in Columbia, North Carolina, and is married to Audrey Brewington Taylor. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have two sons, James Wesley, age 1, and Stephen R., age 4.

The staff and children have already come to love and respect Mr. Taylor and are looking forward to the future under his leadership as Executive Director.

INDEPENDENT LIVING

Ramona

Ramona is an 18-year-old who graduated from Southern Nash Senior High School on June 10, 1983. Ramona has moved from residential cottage living into an independent arrangement provided by the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc. She is now living on campus in an apartment.

The basic goals of independent living for Ramona are to assist her in learning to make her own decisions, in needing less external rules and structure, in becoming more responsible for her own daily routines and in acquiring the needed personal, educational, social and vocational skills in order to function adequately in everyday society.

Ramona is working as a Secretarial Assistant at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc., paid under the CETA Youth Employment Program of Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Ramona's plans are to attend Wilson Technical Institute in the fall for continuing a business career.

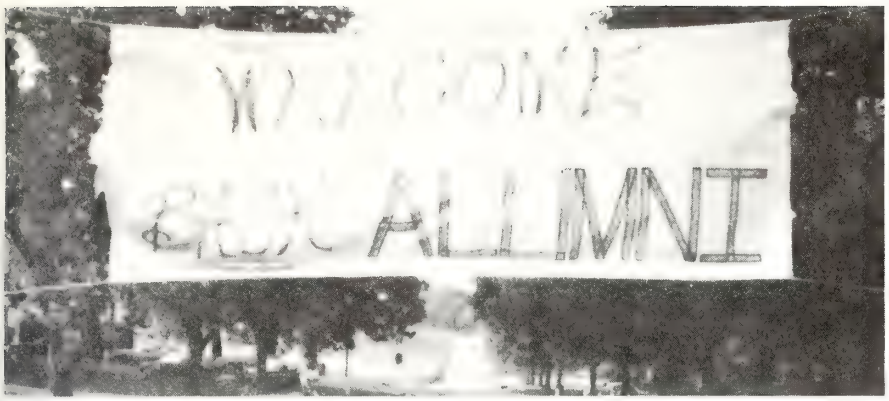
We will continue to support, encourage, and help Ramona to achieve her goals so that one day she may live independently and function adequately in everyday society.

Susan Dalton
Social Worker

ANNUAL ALUMNI HOMECOMING

Saturday, July 10, began the Alumni Homecoming with the arrival of families and individuals from many different states. The welcome back banner was significant of the enthusiasm of all who returned.

David Martin from Greensboro, North Carolina, and Larry Martin from New Orleans, Louisiana, brothers who resided at the Home during the 30s, are pictured above in the office talking about old times. It was truly a time to reminisce on the past, but it was also a time of fun and fellowship for alumni and their families.



After an afternoon of basketball, volleyball, and swimming, there was a cook-out in the center of campus for all present. The evening continued with more recreation and fellowship until dark and everyone made his way to the dining hall to view slides of the past years.

On Sunday, the Alumni participated in worship in Memorial Chapel and conducted their annual Business Meeting. During the worship service the recipients of the Homecoming awards were announced. Recipients of all but the Alumni of the Year Award were children who currently reside at the Home. They were as follows:

Alumni of the Year Award—Doris Ann Hudson (person who has made outstanding contributions to the Home and/or his chosen profession).

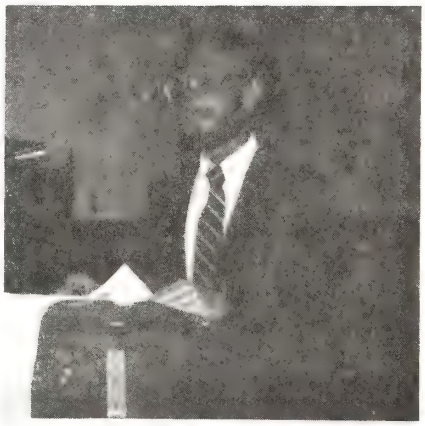
Alumni Award—Cindy Rhodes, Kenneth Jones, (given by the Alumni Association to the girl and boy showing the most interest in the Home).

Academic Award—Dorothy Rhodes, Heidi Perkins, Sherry Willis, and Shayne Williams (given by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper to the students in elementary and high schools who made the highest scholastic average during the past school year).

Johnson Award—Ann Worley (given by Miss Wanda Johnson to the child reflecting the greatest overall progress during the year).

Mixon Award—Cindy Rhodes, John Griffin, (given by Mr. and Mrs. Horace E. Mixon to the best all-around girl and boy).

Powell Award—Cindy Webb, Kenneth Jones, (given by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Powell to the girl and boy showing the most interest in religious activities).



Mickey Newton, Alumni President

Mr. Mickey Newton led the worship service and moderated the business meeting. After the business meeting everyone assembled in the dining hall for lunch. The afternoon continued with all types of recreation and groups gathered to talk and fellowship and to renew old acquaintances.

As the evening drew near and everyone began to make preparation to say good-bye, the statement was made "It's been great and I'll see you next year."

GENERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE WEEK

Pictured here is General Youth Conference which was held June 13-18. The conference was well attended with over 200 campers.

Foreign Missions

WHERE IS THE BELIEVER TO CARRY OUT HIS RESPONSIBILITY?

Earlier we noted that the supreme responsibility of every believer is reconciliation or evangelization. Now let us consider the location of that work.

Where should I be concerned for? As God's child, what realm does He set for my responsibility? Look at His Word. Matthew 28:19, "Go ye therefore, and teach *all nations . . .*"; Mark 16:15, "And He said unto them, Go ye into *all the world . . .*";

The Rev. Fred Baker

Luke 24:47, "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among *all nations . . .*"; Acts 1:8, ". . . and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto *the uttermost part of the earth.*"

God's plan from the dawn of creation has always been and will always be for all the earth. ". . . in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed" (Genesis 12:3). As God's children, all Christians must have a world view. The whole world must be our target. It would be anti-Christ-like to be concerned only for our own family or community.

The world is upon the heart of God. He loves the people of this world (John 3:16). He is not willing that any should perish

(Continued on Page 14)

For July 31

JOASH: A KING LED ASTRAY

Lesson Text: 2 Chronicles 24: 1-7, 17-20
Memory Verse: 2 Chronicles 24:20

I. INTRODUCTION

A life without direction is like a ship without a compass, adrift on an uncharted sea. Such a life must be condemned to aimless wandering, to going in circles, and to eventual destruction. The rudder of the ship (or the will of the individual) may appear to pursue a course, set with dogged determination through the endless waves, but to what destination when there is no means to determine direction? To what purpose does one sail on? How can such a one know what port he may reach, or if he will reach any port at all? Such a one must always be at the mercy of whatever winds and currents there may be, or to the whims of fate, if he does not have a worthwhile goal in mind or if he has no sure guidance toward reaching that goal.

What the mariner needs is a chart of the seas he will be sailing, a chart to reveal the dangers to be avoided and the haven to be reached. In addition, he needs a true compass that will indicate clearly his direction, so that he may know if he is progressing to his ultimate goal. Without the chart and the compass, and without a firm determination to follow them, the mariner surely will go astray.

The Bible, the revealed Word of God, is the chart and compass for life for all who will receive it. It sets forth meaning for life—that one may become and live as a child of God now and enjoy His presence and His fellowship forever. It charts the way to God through Christ and the way to live as children of God. It makes known the way of life that is life indeed, life with a purpose, with a sure and glorious destination, and reveals the means whereby to attain that purpose and that destination. Truly, what a wonderful book is the Bible!

However, suppose one does not accept the direction of the Bible, or gives only lip service to its teachings? The most accurate compass and the perfect chart are meaningless unless we follow them.

Today our lesson is about Joash, king of Judah from about 836 to 797 B.C. His grandmother was Athaliah, known for her ruthless nature, not unlike that of her parents, the wicked Ahab and Jezebel of Israel. Athaliah had married Jehoram, the king of Judah, but within eight years he had died from a dread disease. Their son, Ahaziah, reigned only a year and was then slain by Jehu of Israel. Upon this, Athaliah seized the throne of Judah and proceeded to kill all possible heirs—her own grandchildren and as many of the remaining members of the house of David that she could lay her hands on (2 Chronicles 22:10, 11).

However, a sister of Ahaziah rescued the infant Joash, her nephew, saving him from being slaughtered along with the others. (Thus the lineage of David was kept alive, as God had promised.) This aunt was the wife of Jehoiada the high priest, and for six years, while the wicked and Baal-worshiping Athaliah ruled in Judah, Joash was protected and brought up in their quarters in the temple, with Jehoiada as his teacher and guardian.

Jehoiada recognized Joash as the rightful heir to sit upon the throne of David. At an opportune time he secured the loyalty and support of the military and crowned the young lad as king. Joash was seven years old at the time. Athaliah, for all her treachery, was taken completely by surprise, unaware of what was happening until it was an accomplished fact. She then suffered execution, the same fate she had meted out to others before her.

At the outset, no doubt the affairs of the kingdom were directed under the regency of Jehoiada the priest. In any event, Joash began well, and for most of his life he remained faithful to the principles of God he had learned under his guardian.

Joash had so much going for him. Nevertheless, his story ends in tragedy, not victory. It is the story of a man who began life well but who permitted himself to be turned aside from his God-given purpose. The story of Joash is the story of a king led astray.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. King Joash was the grandson of the wicked Queen Athaliah and would have been slain by her orders if he had not been saved by the priest Jehoiada. He was raised by Jehoiada.

B. There is no doubt that Joash loved Jehoiada and intended to follow his teachings. He did this, in fact, as long as Jehoiada lived. But he had a weakness that caused him to fall for the flattery of those who wanted to turn the country to idolatry again.

C. It has always been true that people suffer for the sins of their leader. To some this may seem unfair, but in a way a leader is only the reflection of the people he leads. At any rate, we do know that people suffer from the sins of their leaders.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, JULY 31

Scripture Reading—Mark 7

CHRIST MADE THE DIFFERENCE

A young man came to an evangelist with a long list of questions. "I will answer your questions if you will promise me to do one thing," the evangelist said. "What's that?" asked the young man. "It is this," said the minister, "give your heart to Christ, and then come to me with your questions."

The young man went silently away. Two days later, he returned with a radiant face which told its own story. "Where are your questions?" asked the evangelist. "I have none! The moment I accepted Christ as my Saviour, I had the answer to most of them, and the others appeared so insignificant that no answer to them was necessary!"

Said Spurgeon of his conversion, "I looked at Him, and He looked at me, and we became one forever!"

MONDAY, AUGUST 1

Scripture Reading—Mark 8

I WAS THAT BIT OF MUD

A so-called higher critic spoke scornfully of the Bible story of man's creation. With a grin on his face he said, "Think of God taking a piece of mud in hand, breathing on it, and changing it into a man!"

In the audience was a man who had sunken low into the muck of sin, but who was now transformed by the wondrous grace of God. He stood fearlessly to his feet and said to the critic of God's Word: "I will not discuss the creation of man with you, but I will tell you this: God stooped down and picked up the dirtiest bit of mud in our town. He breathed upon it by His Spirit. It was newly created. It was changed from a wicked wretch into a man who now hates his former sins and loves the God who saved him. *I was that bit of mud!"*

God never alters the robe of righteousness to fit the man, but He alters the man to fit the robe.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

Scripture Reading—Mark 9

DOG SENSE

A man saw a dog running on three legs down the street of a city. The fourth leg was bound in a splint. The dog did its best to keep the injured leg from touching the ground. Presently it entered a large building through the open door. The building was a *general hospital!* The onlooker smiled when he saw what the dog did. As he walked along, he chanced to see a discarded newspaper on a bench. Bold headlines told about our morally and spiritually sick world, mentioning crime, wars and rumors of wars!

Oh, that our sick world had as much "dog sense" as that mongrel displayed, and would go to the Great Physician, Jesus, for healing of body, soul, and mind! God's diagnosis of sick souls is this: "The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint" (Isaiah 1:5). God's remedy for sin-sick souls is this: "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7).

There is a balm in Gilead,
To make the wounded whole;
There is a balm in Gilead,
To heal the sin-sick soul!

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

Scripture Reading—Mark 10

THE LIVING STONE

On Christ salvation rests secure;
The Rock of Ages must endure;
Nor can that faith be overthrown
Which rests upon the Living Stone.

No other hope shall intervene;
To Him we look, on Him we lean;
Other foundation we disown
And build on Christ, the Living Stone.

In Him it is ordained to raise
A temple to Jehovah's praise;
Composed of all the saints who own
No Saviour but the Living Stone.

View the vast building, see it rise;
The work how great! the plan how wise!
Oh, wondrous fabric! power unknown!
That rears it on the Living Stone.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

Scripture Reading—Mark 11

LET GO—LET GOD!

A traveler upon a lonely road was set upon by bandits who robbed him of his all. They then led him into the depths of the forest. There, in the darkness, they tied a rope to the limb of a great

tree, and bade him catch hold of the end of it. Swinging him out into the blackness of surrounding space, they told him he was hanging over the brink of a giddy precipice. The moment he let go he would be dashed to pieces on the rocks below. And then they left him. His soul was filled with horror at the awful doom impending. He clutched despairingly the end of the swaying rope. But each dreadful moment only made his fate more sure. His strength steadily failed. At last he could hold on no longer. The end had come. His clenched fingers relaxed their convulsive grip. He fell—*six inches,* to the solid earth at his feet! It was only a ruse of the robbers to gain time in escaping. And when he let go it was not to death, but to the safety which had been waiting him through all his time of terror.

Friend, clutching will not save you. It is only Satan's trick to keep you from *being* saved. And all the while is your heart not full of fear? *Let go! That* is God's plan to save you.

"And will I not fall to death?" you say. Nay. Underneath is—Jesus!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5

Scripture Reading—Mark 12

THEY GAVE HIM ALL THE WORKS

"Let's go down to skid row, find a vagrant derelict in great need of a shave and haircut, bring him before us and demonstrate to our group the change we can make in him," suggested someone at a convention of The Midwestern Barber's Association meeting in Chicago. They found a man and gave him "all the works." The barbers took a collection and bought him a new suit, tie, shoes and underwear. How good he looked outwardly! A hotel manager, impressed by what had been done, offered the man a job, "I'll report for work at eight A.M. tomorrow," the man said. He didn't report for work, however. Later he was found in skid row, dead drunk.

Man's greatest need is inward cleansing. "Ye must be born again."

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

Scripture Reading—Mark 13—14:25

OUT WITH THE LIFE-LINE

A farmer near Milton, Pennsylvania, was getting chunks of ice from the Susquehanna River to put in his icehouse. A floating mass of ice struck his small boat and broke the rope which was fastened to a tree on the bank. The boat was set adrift on the swollen river, amidst the churning ice. Someone, seeing his danger, mounted a horse and rode swiftly downstream, calling for helpers. Many hastily got ropes, went out on the bridge downstream, and suspended a line of dangling ropes from the bridge across the river. Presently the farmer was seen standing in his boat which was half filled with water. He was wet and cold and frantic. Then he saw the dangling ropes. When the rapid current brought him to the bridge, he seized the nearest rope and was drawn up to safety!

Imperiled souls are floundering on life's tempest-tossed sea. The black waters of defeat and despair will overflow them unless we "throw out the lifeline with hand quick and strong."

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 4)

is eternal separation from God. Whatever else it is needs to be left to the future.

Why do people need to "get saved"? Is it to escape Hell? Or is it to become all that God has intended for those "created in His image" to become? It is to be a whole, healed, redeemed person who is at one with God, who has found his or her place in the kingdom and is busy serving God and glorifying His name.

Why do we worship and attend Sunday school? Is it a social function, habit, custom or tradition? Or is it because of a need for instruction that we may grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus as Lord and Saviour? Is it because we need the fellowship and strength of the assembled "body of Christ"? Is it because we need an avenue of corporate expression of our faith that we assemble for worship?

This article does not claim to be a definitive or exhaustive study of the theological content of Christian education. My purpose is to cause you to think about this subject. The importance of good, solid theological content in the Sunday school classroom for students of *all* ages cannot be over-stressed. The work of the Sunday school is Christian ministry. We stand responsible to God and to His Church for the quality of the theological content of our teaching ministry.

My concluding comment is the following quotation from the Nels Ferre' book previously cited. He lists four observations from the viewpoint of a theology of Christian education.

> In the first place, the Church must help transmit its theological heritage. The past contributes its concrete historical content of theology. The past also

(Turn the Page)

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 13)

transcends the present in that it has the final norm derived from the revelation of God himself in a community . . . Secondly, the teaching will be carried on in terms of the imitation of the past. The glory and strength of the Church lies not only in its nature but in its concrete history. Church history must therefore be taught, not basically as a subject of objective facts, but as a living word of lives that have embodied the nature of the Church at its best . . . . Third, the Church school should teach through the creative discovery of contemporary community. Living is an art. Teaching becomes an art par excellence when it takes place through the art of living . . . . In the fourth place, the Church school must teach through participation in the life of the Spirit. The only teacher of Christian reality in the last analysis is the Holy Spirit.[4]

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[1]Ronald Goldman, *Readiness for Religion;* Seabury Press, New York, 1968, p. 59.

[2]Ibid, p. 61.

[3]Nels F. S. Ferre', *A Theology for Christian Education,* The Westminister Press, Philadelphia, 1967, p. 99.

[4]Ibid, pp. 168-170.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 6)

procedures along with the ability to interpret them to the community.

Edythe was instrumental in helping organize the Wayne County Association of Volunteer Administrators. She has been recognized as Business Woman of the Year, is a member of the Wayne Interaging Council and serves as Secretary to the North Carolina Association of Volunteer Administrators.

In 1982, she received the Governor's Volunteer Award.

One of her co-workers, Phyllis Lane, says, "Having known Edythe for over 30 years, I can truly say that Edythe Blanton has always been willing to give of herself and is truly an outstanding lady."

As Edythe's pastor for four years, the Rev. Andrew Hill said, "I have come to know her as a person who exemplifies 'a Christian Mother and Servant of God' whether at work, at church, at home, or in the community and congratulate her on being chosen 'Woman of the Year' in her church."

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 10)

but that all should come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9b). The world should be upon the Christian's heart. Every believer must have a personal ministry in his own family, community, country and to the world simultaneously. How can we do that? We can only be in one place at the time. At this point we can but stand in wonder at the wisdom of God. A believer can be a world changer with Christ, as we will see next week.

(Article 2 of a series of 5.)

The Rev. Fred Baker
Missionary to the Philippines

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 7)

works in the College Maintenance Department part-time during the year and full-time during the summer.

"But it's been a growing process for all of us," Cecil added. "The rewards are worth the struggle." He himself was named to the Dean's List for the second semester, "after 23 years out of high school," and he has already set his goals beyond a four-year degree at Mount Olive.

"I'd like to get some experience in the field—to find out first-hand what the needs of our congregation are—and then go on and get a Master's degree from Southeastern Theological Seminary," he said.

Hulda has also broadened her horizons at Mount Olive. She plans to complete a four-year degree in accounting and take advantage of the musical training available at the College so that she can assist her husband in his ministry.

In conclusion, Cecil added that he would like to see more Free Will Baptists—recent high school graduates and older students—take advantage of the opportunity available to them at the College.

"I have nothing but praise for Mount Olive College and what the faculty and administration have done for me," he said.

The Blackmons are members of Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church in the Cape Fear Conference.

NOTICE

The annual meeting of the Membership of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 1983, in the Multipurpose Room located in the Foundation building. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Everette Harper now has a new address: Route 4, Box 427, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

time we shared together. And many of us have good intentions—but they do not dry a tear, offer a hand or shoulder, brighten a day with a smile, give a word of encouragement.

Trifling with time is not a wise practice—but it is a prevalent one. We have no promise of tomorrow and I do not understand why we choose to rob ourselves and others of blessings, good fellowship, and triumphs for the cause of Christ. If we do so because we do not care, that's a completely different matter. If we take matters, things and people for granted, it is time we settle this once and for all!

FIFTH UNION OF EASTERN CONFERENCE
HOME MISSIONS AWARENESS CONFERENCE
JULY 28, 1983

PURPOSE—To stress the importance of Home Missions and to create a "Missionary Zeal" among our Free Will Baptist ministers and their churches.

THEME—"HOME MISSIONS—The Key to Denominational Growth"

TEXT—"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together" (John 4:35, 36).

or

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved" (Jeremiah 8:20).

PLACE—Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Cove City, North Carolina

PROGRAM

Afternoon Session

2:00—Welcome, the Rev. Mike Scott
2:05—Congregational Hymn, the Rev. Dean Kennedy, Song Leader
2:10—Special Music, the Rev. Dean Kennedy, the Rev. Bruce and Judy Jones, Two Selections
2:20—Introduction of Speaker, the Rev. Mike Scott
2:25—The Rev. Charles Crisp, Director of Home Missions
3:00—Congregational Hymn
3:05—Special Music, the Rev. Bruce and Judy Jones, One Selection
3:10—Introduction of Speaker, the Rev. Charles Crisp
3:15—Speaker, the Rev. Walter Sutton, Chairman of Fifth Union of Eastern Conference Missions Board
3:45—Adjournment

Evening Session

7:00—Welcome, the Rev. Charles Crisp
7:05—Congregational Hymn
7:10—Special Music, Two Selections
7:20—Introduction of Speaker, the Rev. Mike Scott
7:25—Speaker, the Rev. D. C. Hansley
8:00—Congregational Hymn
8:05—Statement of Purpose
8:20—Special Music, One Selection
8:25—Introduction of Speaker, the Rev. Charles Crisp
8:30—Sermon, the Rev. Ray Wells
9:00—Benediction

A $50 gift certificate will be given to the pastor who brings the most people. A New Testament on Cassette will be given to the pastor who brings the second largest number of people.

ATTENTION LAYMEN

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Layman's League Convention of Original Free Will Baptists is attempting to determine how many churches, active throughout the State of North Carolina, have a Layman's League, Brotherhood, or Men's Fellowship. You can help us if you will please let us know if you have a league. There are many of our churches that do not have a men's organization yet. Please let us help you get started. You do not know how much you are missing by not being organized. We are now organized on a State level; therefore we **need** all of the Free Will Baptist churches in North Carolina to have a men's organization. We can do great things if we get all churches working together. So please let us hear from you real soon, and help you organize.

Many of you already have a Layman's League, but we do not know who has a league or not unless you let us know. We are trying to get a list of all churches. We encourage all churches to please fill out the form below and return it as soon as possible, during July and by August 15. Looking to hear from you real soon.

Henry P. Beaman
Route 1, Box 406
Snow Hill, North Carolina 28580
President of State Layman's League

Name of Church_____

Address of Church _____

Conference _____

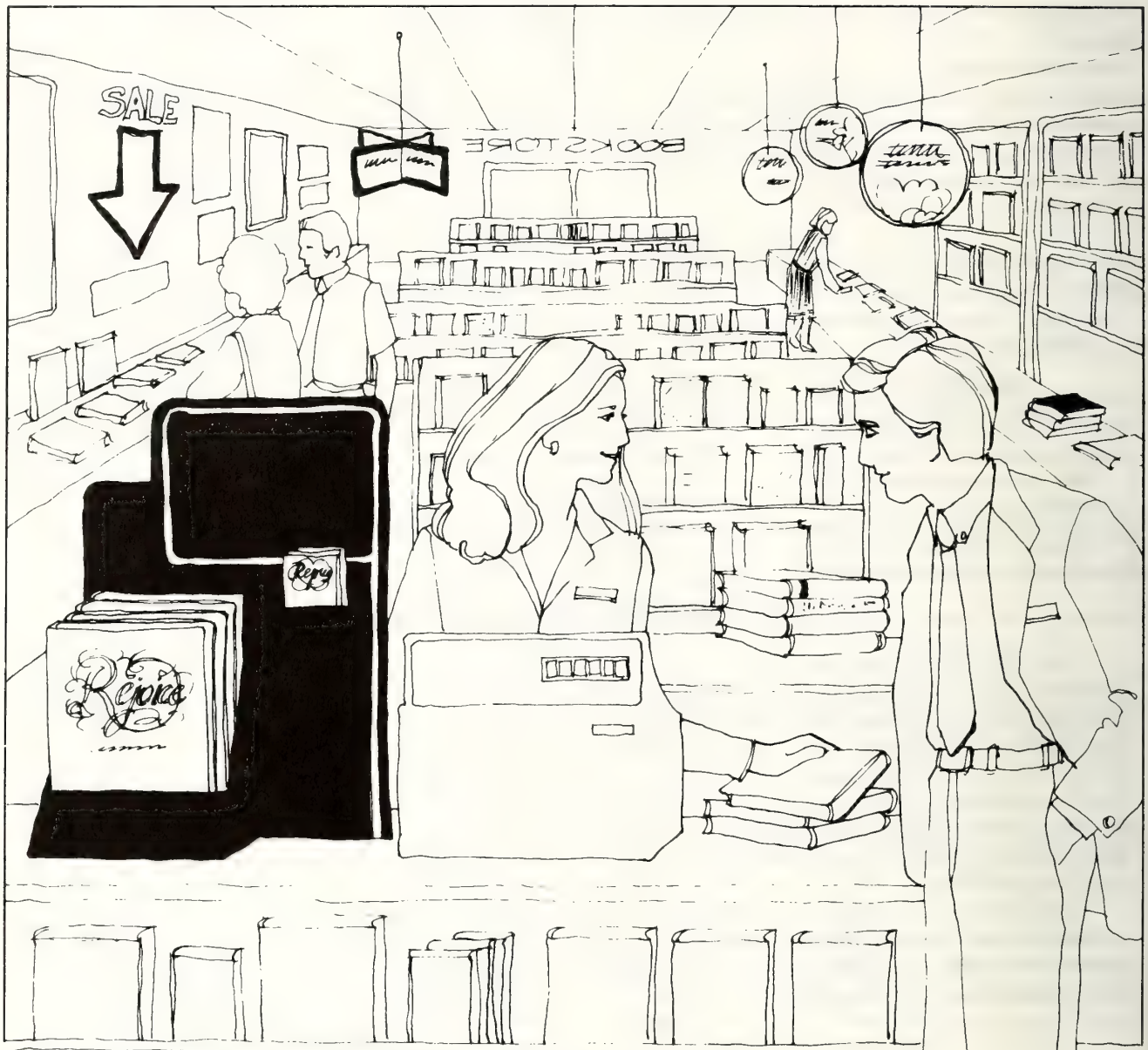
Pastor _____

Do you presently have an organized men's group? _____

If so, what type of organization? (League, Fellowship, Brotherhood, other) _____

If not, would you be interested in receiving help in establishing a men's organization? _____

Comments _____

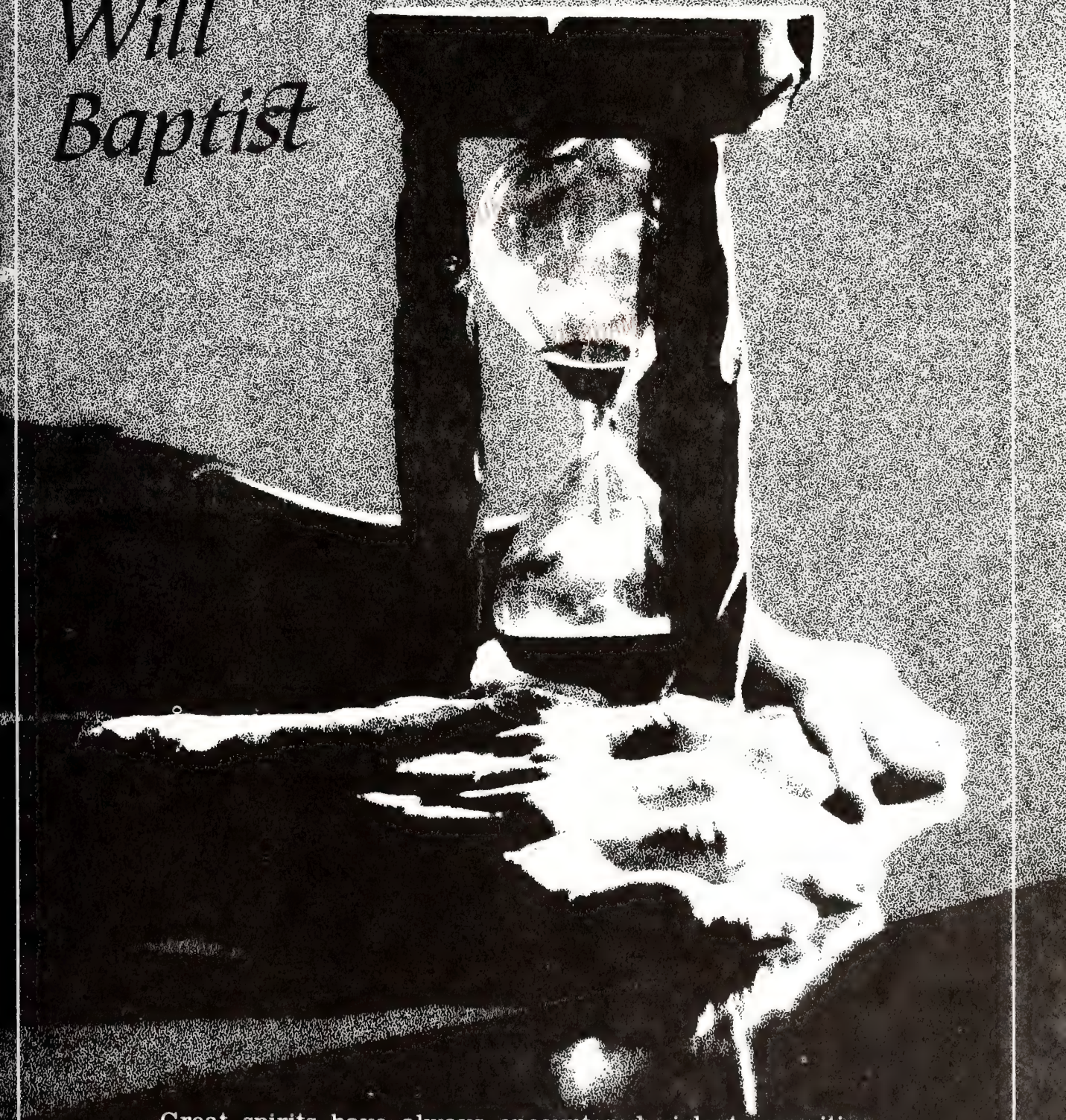


The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation is anxious to help you with any of your Sunday school or church needs. We can supply you with classroom equipment, visual aid materials, lesson commentaries, as well as church furniture, art stained and decorative glass work, fiberglass steeples and baptismal pools, pianos, organs, choir robes, and other religious merchandise. We urge you to see us for all your church needs, so we can better serve our Lord and our denomination.

Six Locations to Serve You

Ayden • New Bern • Smithfield • Wilson • Kinston • Whiteville

The Free Will Baptist



Great spirits have always encountered violent opposition from mediocre minds.—Albert Einstein

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 98 Number 29

AUGUST 3, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

Edited and published forty-eight times a year by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158. Second-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina (USPS 209-440).

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.84; two years, $16.12; four years, $31.20 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

Fred A. Rivenbark, President; C. Felton Godwin, Secretary; James B. Hardee; Clarissa May; Adrian Grubbs; Ruth Taylor; David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, **Executive Director;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

Editorial

Strange Bedfellows?

Change means movement, and movement means friction, and friction means heat, and heat means conflict. You just can't get the rocket off the ground discreetly and quietly.—Saul Alinsky

The term *politics* is not a dirty word, for it is none other than the means by which we govern ourselves, make decisions, allocate resources, and determine the sense and direction of the body. However, the term is more often used to describe the many abuses of the process—you know, the back room and over-the-telephone wheeling and dealing. The word *politicking* is used especially when we don't like the end results; it is a label used to describe a decision one believes to be unspiritual or the result of power. In other words, people say things are the result of dirty politics when their side loses! But decision-making does not always involve sweetness. Factors such as power, choices, competing values, self-interests, noble ideals, and anger come into play.

If a church has **any** sense of mission, if it is more than a fellowship, if it is moving toward something—then there's going to be a debate about what that something is, how to get there, and who is going to lead the way. Yes, there are political issues in the church, and I see no need to try to sanitize the fact.

When conflict comes about, it should not be assumed that the person in the leadership position has failed. There will be "rumblings" and "hassles" if a church is attempting to do **anything** important, for people will have strong feelings and they are best expressed, not withheld. Suppressed opinions usually get "blown out of proportion"—all over the place—when the lid flies off the pressure cooker! One task of effective leadership is being able to manage conflict productively. It's what you do with conflict that matters most.

There is a difference between oneness and political unanimity; and dissension and dissenting are two different things. You see, people are not always going to agree. But when a body struggles with what it is going to do and it finally settles on a plan of action, those who do not endorse that plan can do one of several things. They can continue to press their point—and cause trouble; they can choose to fight another day, often throwing the issue up during some other discussion; or they can agree to disagree. The last choice characterizes a healthy kind of oneness, a holistic attitude. It is not just a unity of those who remain after all the others have trotted off to other churches. It is also quite different from unanimity where it is determined that nothing is going to be done until everyone agrees.

This all points to the existing miracle of the church—"born-againness." The unity we find in Christ emerges from separateness, differentness, where the alien and the stranger are brought together into citizenship in the Kingdom of God. (And this unity is particularly precious when we have to walk through conflict to reach it.)

(Continued on Page 14)

CHRISTIAN ADULT EDUCATION: OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY

by Bass Mitchell

It is the opinion and adamant conviction of this writer that a knowledgeable and involved community of adults should be the top priority in our Christian education program. The purpose of this article is to show why this is true and to make some suggestions about how we can carry out this priority.

Why Bother with Adult Education?

First, in concentrating on Christian adult education we will be following the example of our Lord. Jesus' teaching ministry was primarily directed toward adults. The four Gospels reveal Jesus teaching adults on a one-to-one basis, in small groups like the twelve disciples, and to larger groups. If our Lord thought adult education to be so important as to devote much of His ministry to it, then how much more necessary it is for the church today!

Second, adults, by reason of their greater maturity and experience, are better able to more fully understand and live out the Christian faith. Adults are or should be able to consume the meat of the gospel rather than being still dependent upon the milk of the gospel (see 1 Corinthians 3:1, 2). In other words, Christian adults can study in-depth the meaning of the gospel. They alone can or should see the full implications of the gospel for living in the world. Also, they are the ones best enabled to live out the full implications of the gospel.

Third, the primary responsibility for carrying out the evangelistic and teaching ministries of the church belongs to adults. For too long the assumption has been that Sunday school and Christian education should be primarily for children and youth. Such an assumption places the cart before the horse! Who teaches children and youth? Adults! How can we adequately educate our children in the faith without first having knowledgeable and involved adults? It is the opinion of this writer that if we had a better adult education program, we would have a better program for our children and youth. It is the responsibility of Christian adults to preserve the faith, to pass it on, to maintain a faithful church, to provide models for youth of the Christian life, and to communicate the gospel to the world through word and action.

What Can We Do?

First, we must do some serious thinking about the objective or goal of Christian adult education. What are we trying to do? Why are we engaging in adult Christian education?

Second, each church could appoint an adult education planning committee or team. This team would be responsible for planning the adult education programs in the church. It could make a survey of the

(Turn the Page)

needs, interests, concerns, problems, and timetable of adults. It should study how adults learn. Then it can develop programs based on its study and survey.

Third, we could concentrate our efforts to help train leaders in Christian education. This could include adult teachers, ministers, and superintendents. These persons need to be adequately informed about the Christian faith and able to facilitate learning among adults.

Fourth, one of our greatest challenges is to involve more men in the life of the church and in Christian education. We need to explore ways to do this. Men's groups should be far more than just fellowship or to keep up church facilities. Christian men need substantial and in-depth study in the Christian faith.

Fifth, we can provide more opportunities and greater variety for Christian adult education. Why must it be limited to Sunday mornings? Why could there not be programs planned at other times during the week which take into account the timetable of adults? Why can we not explore a variety of groupings? Why not have classes for young married couples which explore the Christian concept of marriage and the family? Could we not have classes for parents to explore the joys and problems of parenthood from a Christian perspective? Could we not have a "Single Again" class for divorced persons? Special classes could be offered on prayer, or a Christian doctrine like the Holy Spirit, or some other topic of interest and concern for adults. The possibilities are unlimited.

The challenge is clear and the need is great. We can and we must meet them. How well we address this top priority of Christian adult education will profoundly influence the whole life of the church.

1983 State Convention Approaches

The Seventy-first Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, along with the Night of Evangelism, will be held at Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, 307 Everett Avenue, Clayton, North Carolina, September 13-15.

The Night of Evangelism services, scheduled for Tuesday evening, will feature Mr. Robert Shank as speaker. Mr. Shank is the author of *Life in the Son: A Study of the Doctrine of Perseverance* and *Until: The Coming of Messiah and His Kingdom.* The choir assembled for this service will be under the direction of Mr. Mott Batchelor.

The Convention will get under way on Wednesday morning, with a full schedule of events (which will be announced in a later publication). Mr. Shank will address the Convention again on Wednesday morning and Dr. Burkette Raper is the speaker for the Thursday worship service. The 1983 Mission Rally will be held on Wednesday evening. The Home Missions Department of the North Carolina State Convention is in charge of this year's rally.

A look at last year's Convention will show the following as some of the items discussed: the desire for a new hymnal, disapproval of abortion on demand, the desire for more lay representatives on Convention boards and committees, and a desire to aid the Christian Action League in its fight against pornography.

SANDY PLAIN YOUTH SAVES COINS FOR HOME MISSIONS

Sandy Plain Youth

Sandy Plain Youth of Pink Hill ran a "Thirty Pieces of Silver Bag" campaign and saved their coins and contributed $100 to Home Missions. They each received a gold lapel pin from Home Missions. Their youth director is Mrs. Pamela Kennedy.

Freezer for the Bakers

The Ladies Auxiliary of Selma Church, Selma, met June 6 for their monthly meeting. During the business period, they talked about the needs of the missionaries.

All the ladies knew how much a freezer locker helped their families in keeping food. Learning that the Bakers didn't have one, the motion was made that the ladies attempt to help this family get one.

With less than 2 weeks of their departure to the Philippines, the ladies of Selma Church knew they had to work to get the freezer. They decided to ask for donations to be given in memory or honor of someone. All the names would be read on Father's Day. The Rev. Harold Jones brought the message for the day. A total of $400.50 was given. The following names were given as donations:

In memory of Raymond Griswold by Annie G. Taylor and Erdean Hatcher; Roy Narron by Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Narron; Floyd Jennette and Wilbert Jennette by Mrs. Maie Jennette; K. R. Britt and Hubert Daughtry by the Rev. and Mrs. Gene Britt; Allen Winborne by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Mitchell; James R. Taylor by Jessie Taylor; W. J. Williams and Arthur Vann by Mr. and Mrs. Roland Vann; Robert Ennis Parrish by Vira P. Coley; Roy Crumpler by Mary Crumpler; Joe Edwards and Walter Parrish by Mr. and Mrs. George Parrish; Harvey Hall by Alice Hall; and Walter Starling and Rayford Hinnant by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hinnant.

In honor of Arthur Barefoot by Tommy Barefoot; Roland Vann and Jay Lassiter by Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Lassiter; Rouse Coats by Vallie Coats; Betty G. Barefoot by Linwood Creech; the Rev. Gene Britt by Gene Britt Jr. and Tim Britt; the Rev. Gene Britt by the Ladies Auxiliary; Tom Hinnant by Julie Hinnant; and Lloyd M. Parrish by Doris Parrish.

Other donations included: Young Adult Sunday School Class; Ruby Vann; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Strickland; Ada Wall; Alma Hines; Annie Laurie Cannady; Ila Godwin; Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Boykin.

NOTICES

The Central Conference Ordaining Council will meet at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, on August 11, 1983, in the Multipurpose Room, at 10 a.m. Anyone can contact me by calling these telephone numbers: 756-6600 or 756-8585.

Harry Grubbs

When last in session, the Albemarle Woman's Auxiliary Convention talked in reference to the establishment of an endowment scholarship at Mount Olive College in memory of the Rev. A. B. Chandler and in honor of Mrs. A. B. (Minnie) Chandler. Delegates were to discuss this matter with their local auxiliaries. It is asked that monies for this cause be brought to the October meeting of the Convention, if local auxiliaries deem it proper to support this cause.

Becky Jo Sumner
Albemarle WA Convention, President

"TIME, PROGRESS, AND COMPLIANCE"

The following statements are for the most part taken from a study done by Group Child Care Consultant Services of Chapel, Hill, North Carolina, on the Free Will Baptist Children's Home at Middlesex, North Carolina.

This study was sponsored by the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, with help from Duke Endowment. The report was done over a considerable amount of time, and was completed and dated December 14, 1982.

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home opened in 1920 because of the concern the Free Will Baptists had for "orphaned, half-orphaned, neglected, dependent and needy children, and indigent persons" (*Constitution, III, 1*). The Home has served many children, and indigent persons" (*Constitution, III, 1*).

Since 1920, many changes have taken place in child care. Most of these changes have been taken in stride by the Home. The old three-story dormitory is gone and newer air-conditioned cottages have been constructed. The size of living groups has been reduced; we have nice staff quarters and offices, and the physical plant is attractive and appropriate for professional care of children. Changes over the last half century have not only taken place in the physical plant of the Home but also in the children we are to help.

In the past, the Children's Home was called an orphanage because most of the children were orphans. Today there are very few orphans and most of the children come from neglected, dependent, and needy or abused home conditions. With a change in the background and home life of the children we serve came a change in the way we served them. In the past, once an orphan was placed in the Home, he or she was to remain there until he or she reached maturity. Today in child care every effort is made to correct the problem in the child's home life so the child can be placed back in the home with its natural parents. In this way the staff of the Children's Home not only works with the child as in the past but also has the opportunity to work with the child's family. This really broadens the Home's mission field.

When our Children's Home began, religious denominations or maybe a fraternal organization provided the child care services. They not only provided the physical plant but the entire budget. However, in the Depression of the early 1930s, the churches and other private organizations were overwhelmed by the amount of services needed and were unable to meet the needs of those in need. With this inability of these private organizations to meet all these needs, the Federal Government, beginning with Mother's Aid, started to assume financial responsibility for a selected group of children in need. This help by the Federal Government has increased and expanded now to a much wider group of children. These services have now developed to the point that the Department of Social Services gains custody of most children in need of a home.

With the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Children's Homes were denied children from the Department of Social Services if the Homes had not signed to comply with the Civil Rights Act, which our Home decided not to sign. So our Home and others that did not comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 were denied children from the Department of Social Services, which gets custody of most children today. This condition causes our Home to be unable to get children which go to D.S.S., and the ability to gain access to those children is greatly hindered. Not only is the ability to help children hindered because D.S.S. cannot refer children to us, but also ability is cut greatly because of the financial condition created by this situation.

In 1970, when our denomination decided not to sign the Civil Rights Act, we had about 60 children in our care. At this time we have about 25 children in our care. This decrease is due mainly to the fact that we could not receive children from D.S.S.

As of 1981, we do not receive any government funds and very little funding from outside our own denomination because of our noncompliance with the Civil Rights Act. This cut the income of the Home tens of thousands of dollars, which in turn cuts the ability to meet the needs of our children. In 1981, approximately $100,000 was lost by the Free Will Baptist Children's Home from a grant-in-aid from the General Assembly of North Carolina because of our noncompliance with the Civil Rights Act. It is not realistic to expect one denomination to be able to increase their support to make up this kind of loss. Our people have always given to the Home very well, and I would personally like to say, "Thank you so much," and ask that you keep up the good work. But without other funds coming into the Home from other sources, the number of children we care for and the quality of that care will be very limited. This also puts us in a "catch-22" situation, because with these limited funds we cannot possibly take more children without cutting into the care of others. This means that the more children, the less money we have to support each child. However, among all this that appears to be gloom is some hope.

The Board of Directors voted to comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1964. In this we will be receiving funds from private and governmental organizations, and not only money but children also!

The Federal guidelines for the Department of Social Services and professional theory with respect to placement of children both require that a child be placed in a facility located as close to his/her own home as possible. The Free Will Baptist Children's Home is the only institution in the area from Oxford, North Carolina, to the coast and north of Kinston. Thus, we are strategically located to serve one whole corner of North Carolina.

Considering the number of children and youth in this geographic area who need help, the empty and closed cottages at our Home leave a sad feeling in one's life. To me, our Home stands at a point in its existence that shows a bright future, a time when the Home can minister to more people than ever (adults and children alike). I know that child care (through the Children's Home) is a ministry Christ wanted the Free Will Baptists involved in in 1920, and He still wants us in this ministry in 1983 **and** for years to come. The youth of North Carolina and of the world need guidance now so that they may lead us all in the years to come. If we fail to meet the needs of the children today, we will have no right to criticize the world we live in tomorrow.

Publicity Committee
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.

NOTE:
In an educational effort, the Board appointed the Publicity Committee and instructed that information be gathered and published. The articles submitted by the committee are endorsed by the Board of Directors of the Home.

FINANCIAL REPORT RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS JULY 1, 1982—JUNE 30, 1983

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1983

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Belhaven	$ 175
Corinth	
Free Union	60
Gum Neck	150
Hickory Chapel	1,587
Malachi's Chapel	
Mount Tabor	305
Mount Zion	728
Auxiliary Convention	20
District Convention	382
Fifth Sunday Singing	100
Union Meeting	89
Plymouth, First	350
Shiloh	18
Sidney	783
Sound Side	494
St. Paul	658
Trinity	520
Union Chapel	624
Cape Colony Mission	16
Piney Grove	
Malachi's Chapel Sunbeams	125
Malachi's Chapel Sunday School	718
Mount Tabor Sunday School	1,416
Sound Side Auxiliary	120
Union Chapel Layman's League	522
Hickory Chapel Auxiliary	90
Total Albemarle Conference	$ 10,054

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel	$ 570
Casey's Chapel	150
Daly's Chapel	440
Goldsboro, First	1,162
Haymount	273
Hopewell	532
Johnston Union	1,149
Lee's Chapel	3,326
Auxiliary Convention	56
Oak Grove	830
Palmer Memorial	1,144
Pleasant Grove	715
Robert's Grove	516
Riverside	445
St. Mary's Grove	16
Shady Grove	1,230
Smithfield, First	890
Tee's Chapel	1,231
Victory Mission	135
Wooten's Chapel	136
Yelverton Grove	803
Catalpa	35
Christian Chapel	100
Eastwood Chapel	563
Faith	200
Lanwood Chapel	75
Mount Olive	80
Powhatan	320
Saint Paul	525
Smyrna	100
Stephen's Chapel	200
West Clinton	100
Lee's Chapel Sunday School	1,199
Oak Grove Youth Adult Class	100
Oak Grove Sunday School	1,000
Cape Fear Youth Rally	100
Johnston Union Sunday School	134
Shady Grove Auxiliary	389
Bethel Sunday School	211
District Convention	91
Total Cape Fear Conference	$ 21,280

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	$ 771
Ayden	525
Bethany	430
Black Jack (Pitt)	2,090
Cedar Grove	350
Community	79
Daniels Chapel	1,449
Dilda's Grove	125
Edgewood	349
Elm Grove	1,260
Free Union	1,969
Friendship	1,174
Gum Swamp	2,425
Greenville, First	1,890
Grimsley	440
Harrell's Chapel	1,060
Hickory Grove	230
Howell Swamp	390
Hugo	877
Hull Road	626
King's Cross Roads	3,743
LaGrange	115
Little Creek	365
Marlboro	774
Union Number 2	63
Auxiliary Convention	34
Ormondsville	1,200
Otter's Creek	322
Owens Chapel	426
Peace	244
Piney Grove (Pitt)	303
Reedy Branch	1,118
Roanoke Rapids, First	25
Rocky Mount, First	550
Rose Hill	866
Rose of Sharon	330
Saratoga	690
Spring Branch	865
Sweet Gum Grove	1,196
Tarboro, First	1,095
Walnut Creek	685
Watery Branch	40
Williamston, First	856
Winterville	717
Maury	225
Piney Grove (Beaufort)	
Union Number 4	275
King's Cross Roads Auxiliary	450
Reedy Branch Sunday School	1,308
Edgewood Auxiliary	25
Owens Chapel Auxiliary	100
Ormondsville Sunday School	57
Black Jack Sunday School	170
Otter's Creek Sunday School	368
Little Creek Sunday School	675
Friendship Sunday School	757
Grimsley Layman's League	50
Greenville, First Auxiliary	100
Dilda's Grove Sunday School	1,048
King's Cross Roads Young	55
Elm Grove Auxiliary	100

(Turn the Page)

Aspen Grove Sunday School	1,900
Winterville Sunday School	1,492
King's Cross Roads Sunday School	154
Hickory Grove Sunday School	550
Piney Grove Sunday School	449
Grimsley Auxiliary	150
Rose Hill Sunday School	200
Rose of Sharon Auxiliary	100
Cedar Grove Auxiliary	50
Ayden,	
Janice H. Overman Auxiliary	20
Winterville Auxiliary	74
Pleasant Hill Auxiliary	50
Spring Branch Sunday School	350
Gum Swamp Auxiliary	16
District Convention	62
	25
	100
Total Central Conference	$ 46,652

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	$ 1,145
Arapahoe	723
Bethel	1,275
Bethlehem	1,100
Beaufort Mission	750
Bridgeton	597
British Chapel	500
Core Point Chapel	188
Cabin	220
Christian Chapel	754
Crab Point	90
Croatan	500
Deep Run	939
Dublin Grove	766
Edwards Chapel	482
Ephesus	187
Friendship	516
Gethsemane	1,272
Core Creek	1,173
Gray Branch	620
Hillsberry	90
Holly Springs	4,790
Indian Springs	442
Jackson Heights	899
Juniper Chapel	743
Kinston, First	1,186
Lanier's Chapel	335
Long Ridge	15
May's Chapel	1,050
Memorial	393
Moseley's Creek	270
Mount Pleasant	349
Mount Zion (Pamlico)	484
Mount Zion (Onslow)	150
Union Number 5	200
Fifth Sunday School Convention	90
Union Number 3	362
New Bethlehem	393
New Haven	698
Northeast	108
Oak Grove	200
Oriental	45
Otway	41
Pearsall Chapel	928
Pilgrim's Home	403
Pilgrims Rest	100
Piney Grove	100
Reunion Chapel	50
Rock of Zion	1,003
Rooty Branch	485
Sarecta	733
Sandy Plain	573
Smith's New Home	769
Sneads Ferry	400
Smyrna	1,500
Snow Hill	950
Sound View	304
Spring Hope	260
St. Mary's	1,380
Trent	195
Vanceboro, First	50
Verona	272
Wardens Grove	401
Warsaw, First	267
Westside	1,156
Whaley's Chapel	780
White Hill	145
White Oak Grove	454
Wilmington, First	
Wintergreen	500
Woodrow, First	81
Angola	
Daly's Chapel	125
Davis	717
Faith	270
Faith Mission (Brunswick)	92
Faith Mission (Craven)	75
Folkstone	721
Free Union	120
Grants Chapel	
Macedonia	1,367
Russell's Creek	100
Saints Delight	803
Welcome Home	375
White Oak	133
Wintergreen	20
Beaulaville	1,370
Auxiliary Convention	1,252
Carteret County	
Sunday School Convention	25
Women's Auxiliary	40
Sunday School Convention	15
Bethel Auxiliary	205
Moseley's Creek League	100
Kinston Auxiliary	195
Rock of Zion Auxiliary	200
Grant's Chapel Auxiliary	100
Oak Grove Auxiliary	100
Antioch Auxiliary	50
Core Creek Sunday School	697
Northeast Sunday School	458
Croatan Auxiliary	210
Deep Run Sunday School	387
Bridgeton Auxiliary	100
Dublin Grove Auxiliary	249
New Haven Sunday School	623
Reunion Chapel Auxiliary	15
Juniper Chapel Sunday School	103
Bethlehem Auxiliary	10
Crab Point Auxiliary	30
Antioch, Apostle Sunday School	250
Kinston, Everready Sunday School	125
May's Chapel Auxiliary	228
Friendship Sunday School	120
Faith Auxiliary	75
New Haven Auxiliary	50
Saints Delight Auxiliary	10
	105
	50
Total Eastern Conference	$ 53,657

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Beaverdam	$ 3,100
Cypress Creek	
Emerson	
Union Number 1	213
Pee Dee Association	335
Oak Grove	2,326
White Oak	526
Ash	20
Little Bethel	40
Macedonia	
Mission Valley	
Mount Beulah	
Mount Calvary	100
Mount Olive	
Pine Level	
Pireway	
Pleasant Meadow	25
Thomasboro	600
Union Number 2	400
Cypress Creek Sunday School	282
District Convention	30
Total Pee Dee Conference	$ 7,999

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Baptist Road Cathedral	
Bethany	$ 50
Community	
East Rockingham	1,140
Heritage Mission	353
High Point	547
Highland Pines	1,038
Holy Cross	265
Hopewell	
Mount Olive	100
Calvary	
Christ	
Christian Faith	
Gospel Light	
House of Prayer	100
Love Gospel	
Union Gospel	200
Advance Mission	13
Sweet Haven	20
Faith	
Cathedral	340
High Point Auxiliary	200
Miscellaneous Card	70
Conference	165
Total Piedmont Conference	$ 4,603

ROCK FISH CONFERENCE

Mount Moriah	$ 200
Hickory Grove	
Mount Calvary	
Total Rock Fish Conference	$ 200

TOE RIVER CONFERENCE

Roaring Creek	$ 402
Coxe's Creek	260
Curtis Creek	370
Poplar Church	291
Odom's Chapel	317
Total Toe River Conference	$ 1,641

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Agape Mission	$ 100
Barnes Hill	1,000
Black Jack Grove	1,548
Branch Chapel	
Calvary	656
Elwood Lane	121
Everett Chapel	2,905
Fellowship	25
Flood's Chapel	300
Free Spirit Mission	1,142
Fremont	940

(Continued on Page 14)

HOW DOES A BELIEVER FULFILL HIS RESPONSIBILITY?

Part 3

The Rev. Fred Baker

Let us review the previous articles. The supreme task or responsibility of each believer is world evangelization. Everyone that names the name of Jesus as Lord and Saviour faces the same responsibility. Though we are limited to be in only one place at the time, we can minister to the entire world by three basic essentials in the Christian life.

The first is to pray. Communication with God is vital. We should pray daily for the lost. "Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost part of the earth for thy possession" (Psalm 2:8). Our prayer should be daily for laborers to work in the spreading of the gospel. Matthew 9:38 reads "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." The number of souls saved and the number of laborers are tied directly to our prayer life.

The second is to go or to witness. A Christian must be ready to give an answer for the reason of the hope within him (see 1 Peter 3:15). In Romans 1:15 Paul states, ". . . I am ready to preach the gospel . . . ." Inactivity will not be accepted by God. Every Christian must be ready and involved in witnessing for the Lord Jesus Christ. If we are ashamed of Christ, He will be ashamed of us on that day.

The third is to give. Taking the gospel to the ends of the earth is an expensive task. As Paul in Romans 1:14, we are debtors to the world. To the places where we cannot go, we must send someone else. Every place must receive the good news of salvation. The gospel of Christ is their only hope. We must give systematically that everyone may hear and have a chance to live.

Satan tries to teach that if you pray, you don't have to go or give. If you go, you don't have to pray or give. If you give, you don't have to pray or go. We must not be deceived. God's call upon our lives is that we must be involved in world evangelization at all three levels. The responsibility is the same for all Christians whether we are layperson, pastor or missionary. Where we are at, we can minister simultaneously to the entire world through prayer, going, witnessing, and giving.

Fred Baker
Missionary to the Philippines

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Dan Jordan, a member in good standing of the Western Conference announces that he is available for supply, revivals, or full-time pastoral services. He can be reached by phone at (919) 243-6511 or at 900 Briggs Street, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

THE BOOK CORNER

The Way of the Heart by Henri J. M. Nouwen (New York: Seabury Press), 1981
by Frank R. Harrison, Mount Olive College

Occasionally, from the pens of men comes a book, almost unnoticed, into human experience that can truly make a difference. *The Way of the Heart* is such a book. It addresses itself to those who ask, "How can we expect to remain full of creative vitality, of zeal for the Word of God, of desire to serve, and of motivation to inspire our often numbed congregations? Where are we supposed to find nurture and strength? How can we alleviate our own spiritual hunger and thirst?"

The author invites us to search deeply for those springs that nourish true ministry by looking to the example of the fifth century Desert fathers and mothers, to visit those who have been through the "night of the soul" and have found the wells of spiritual survival and growth through solitude, silence, and prayer. By seeking to apply some of their insights, Nouwen uncovers the essential importance of these three disciplines for contemporary spiritual life.

The Way of the Heart is written for the minister and layperson who knows and yearns for deeper spiritual springs in the Christian life, but does not know the way to them. The author provides those insights that not only lead to a fuller encounter with God, but also a more creative ministry with our fellow human beings.

NEW POSITION CREATED IN DEVELOPMENT

President W. Burkette Raper has announced the creation of a new administrative position, the Vice President for College Affairs, at Mount Olive College. Mr. Henry (Hank) Garrity, National Director of Membership and Financial Resources for the American Forestry Association, has been appointed to serve the institution in that capacity. He assumed the position August 1.

President Raper said that Garrity would assist in designing a development program to support the College's growth and transition into a four-year institution. As Vice President for College Affairs, Garrity will serve as chief assistant to the President in all matters concerning institutional development and advancement. His areas of responsibility will include public relations and public information, annual and planned giving, and alumni affairs. He will assist the President in working with the Development and Public Relations Committee of the Board.

Garrity comes to Mount Olive with an established record of successful fund-raising experiences. He has directed capital campaigns on a national level for the American Forestry Association, Camp Fire Girls, and Boy Scouts of America.

As a college administrator, Garrity has served as Director of Development and Alumni Affairs for his alma mater, Wake Forest University, and he was also the first Director of Development for Rider College in Trenton, New Jersey. At Rider he merged all fund-raising into one comprehensive program and in three years tripled the college income from all sources.

NIGHT CLASSES FOR MINISTERS AND CHURCH WORKERS

The following night classes for ministers and church workers are offered through Mount Olive College, Mount Olive:

Sermon Preparation and Delivery, September 12—December 19: Mondays, 7-9:45 p.m., Henderson Building, Room 215; teacher, the Rev. Frank R. Harrison; cost $20; 3 semester hours.

English Composition I, September 12—December 19: Mondays, 7-9:45 p.m., Henderson Building, Room 111; teacher, Dr. Pepper Worthington; cost $20; 3 semester hours.

These courses are offered through the Paul Palmer Institute:

Sermon Preparation and Delivery, September 12—October 31: Mondays, 7-8:15 p.m., Henderson Building, Room 215; teacher, the Rev. Frank R. Harrison; cost $20 credit, $10 non-credit; 3 units of credit.

English Composition I, September 12—October 31: Mondays, 8:30-9:45 p.m., Henderson Building, Room 111; teacher, Dr. Pepper Worthington; cost $20 credit, $10 non-credit; 3 units of credit.

The Book of Daniel, September 13—November 1: Tuesdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Verona Free Will Baptist Church; teacher, Rudene Kennedy; cost $20; 3 units of credit.

Additional Information: For additional information on any of these courses please contact the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, director of Church Relations, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; telephones (919) 658-2502, office; 658-9363, home.

MINISTERS' INSTITUTE SCHEDULED

A Ministers' Institute will be held at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, August 8, 9, in the Henderson Building. The topic for Monday's meeting is "Ministerial Stress and Burnout." The time of the sessions is 9 a.m. through 3:45 p.m.

On Tuesday, the topic will be "The Minister's Health, Growth and Development." The time of the sessions is 9 a.m. through 3:45 p.m.

Ministers' wives are also encouraged to attend. A complete program and full information may be obtained by contacting the Rev. Frank R. Harrison, director of Church Relations.

CHURCHES AVAILABLE

Sound Side Church, Columbia, North Carolina, is in need of a pastor. Anyone desiring to talk with this part-time church concerning this pastorate should contact Mr. Edmund Brickhouse by calling him at (919) 796-1841.

Free Union Church, Beaufort County, is in need of a full-time pastor. A parsonage is provided. Anyone interested, please contact: Charlie Keech Jr., Route 1, Box 130, Pinetown, NC 27865; phone, 943-3260; or C. J. Brooks Jr., Route 2, Pantego, NC 27860; phone, 934-2929.

Have you renewed your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist?*

For August 7

Naomi and Ruth: Shared Loyalty

Lesson Text: Ruth 1:16-20; 3:1-5; 4:13-17
Memory Verse: Ruth 1:16

I. INTRODUCTION

At first glance it may not appear so, but Ruth 3:10 is one of the key verses of the book. This is true because the verse contains a very significant word that delineates the character of Ruth in a beautiful fashion. The verse may be translated, in part, "May you be blessed by the Lord, my daughter; you have caused your latter kindness to be greater than the former." If the casual reader sees little more than a nice compliment in this verse, he may be excused. Actually, it is not possible to put in simple English, without amplification, the depth of meaning in these words of Boaz.

The key word is *kindness.* Kindness is a beautiful trait, but the term is woefully inadequate to express the profound significance of the Hebrew term it would translate. That Hebrew term is *hesed,* a small word indeed, but one of very great importance and meaning. And, since it is so significant, our understanding of the lesson for today will be enhanced if we begin with a brief consideration of the term.

In the *King James Version* there are ten renderings in English for this one Hebrew word. Primary among these are *lovingkindness, mercy, kindness,* and *goodness.* Other versions add *loyalty* and *steadfast love.* Obviously the term is replete with meaning, one of the most significant in the entire Old Testament.

The basic significance is that of "loyal love" in a covenant relationship. This covenant (specified or implied) and faithfulness within the covenant are significant factors.

The exact idea behind the root word is uncertain, but quite possibly it was eagerness, or keenness—the kind of emotion a person feels for one with whom he is in complete rapport. The word is used in describing personal relationships—relationships to others who respond (or should respond) with a corresponding loyal love. Since this is so, *hesed* sometimes has been defined as "covenant love," such as that of friend with friend, wife with husband, child of God with God. The significance of this quality is such that none of the relationships just mentioned is ideally possible without it. Without loyal love, relationships between persons go sour or they are broken altogether.

Ruth possessed *hesed.*

Our two principal characters are Naomi and Ruth. Naomi is an example of a devout woman who experienced great tragedy, but whose latter days brought abundant blessing. The name *Naomi* means "pleasant." She was married to a man named Elimelech, of the tribe of Judah, and the couple had two sons.

In time of famine Elimelech moved his family to Moab. The Moabites, like the Hebrews, were of Semitic stock, being descended from Lot, the nephew of Abraham (Genesis 19:30-37). Their language, a sample of which is preserved in an inscription of Mesha, king of Moab, was practically the same as Hebrew.

Elimelech died in Moab, leaving Naomi and her two sons. The sons married Moabite girls, but in time her sons died also, leaving her a widow in a strange land without a son or daughter to care for her. It is commonly recognized that among men of the Old Testament who suffered affliction, Job stands preeminent. Among women, this dubious honor would likely fall upon Naomi. But one ray of light shone in her otherwise darkened life. There was Ruth, a daughter-in-law who was bound to her by the cords of loyal love of which we have spoken.

When Naomi learned that the famine in Judah was ended, she determined to return to Bethlehem to her own people. Her daughters-in-law, Ruth and Orpah, accompanied her to the border of the land. This in itself was a demonstration of genuine love and concern. There was a moment of farewell and of leave-taking. She spoke to the girls and told each to return to her own mother's house, adding a prayer that the Lord would deal as kindly with them as they had dealt with her deceased sons (their husbands) and with her. Upon this, Orpah kissed Naomi and turned back toward her mother's house. Ruth, however, determined to stick with her mother-in-law.

To the literary critic, the Book of Ruth is an excellent example of a short story. To the Bible scholar it portrays the beauty of *hesed* at work in the lives of persons and manifested also by God. In our lesson we shall note how this beautiful grace of loyal love was demonstrated by Ruth, by Naomi, and by our Lord.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A devoted Christian wife used to pray for her husband with her hand gently resting on his head when she thought him asleep. After her death it seemed to him that he could still feel that hand upon him, constraining him to be a Christian. It was more than he could resist, and he let that hand guide him to the Saviour. —*The Advanced Quarterly (F. W.B.)*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

Scripture Reading—Mark 14:26-72

ONLY ONE HOPE FOR MAN

Clarence Darrow, the famed criminal lawyer, said, "You can make nothing of man but man—selfish, mean, tyrannical, aggressive. That's what man is and a lot more. It is useless to try to change him!"

And a phrenologist said to a group of people, "I can tell you what a man's character is by the bumps on his head. Who'll volunteer?" A man went forward. After a thorough examination, the lecturer said, "This man is hard and cold. He has many disagreeable traits." The audience laughed derisively. "You've miserably failed to judge that man's character. He is kind and genial, and he lives an exemplary life," they said. The one who was examined, wanting to give the Saviour the honor for any good there was in him, said, "Friends, you have heard what my nature *was* before Jesus Christ changed my life. Before He came into my heart, I was guilty of graver sins than the lecturer mentioned!"

It is only through the miracle of the new birth that sinful hearts are changed. Christ plumbed to the depth the basic need of sinful man when He said, "Ye must be born again."

MONDAY, AUGUST 8

Scripture Reading—Mark 15, 16

DIRTY RAGS PREACH A SERMON

Queen Victoria once visited a large paper mill. She was shown, among other places, the "rag room" where tons of offensively filthy rags were stored. "How can these dirty rags ever be made white and pure?" she asked. "I have a chemical process by which I can remove all the grime and uncleanness from those rags, and make them immaculately white," answered the superintendent. Sometime later, the Queen found on her writing desk some of the most beautiful writing paper she had ever seen. Accompanying the paper was a note which read: "Will Her Majesty be pleased to accept a specimen of my paper with the assurance that every sheet was manufactured out of the dirty rags which she saw? Will Her Majesty also allow me to say that I have had many excellent sermons 'preached' to me as I have seen filthy rags changed into the most elegant bond paper? I can understand now how Christ can make the vilest sinner clean—white as snow—though his sins be as scarlet!"

God forms man, sin deforms him, the school informs him, but only Christ transforms him.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9

Scripture Reading—Luke 1:1-25

NO SUBSTITUTE

There was a mail carrier who used a canoe in the course of his rounds among homes along a river. One day a Salvation Army man said to him, "Can you swim?" "Oh," replied the man, "there's no need for me to learn to swim. I've paddled this canoe up and down the river for years. I'll be all right." Some time after the conversation the newspapers reported that this man's canoe had capsized; and, because he could not swim, he was drowned. All his knowledge and experience at paddling a canoe did not suffice for him at the critical moment; he had neglected the means of his salvation. How often we hear people say when spoken to about their souls, "I'm all right; I live a good life." Yet they neglect salvation through Christ.

There is no salvation for the soul from eternal death when it refuses the "one thing needful."

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

Scripture Reading—Luke 1:26-80

CLEANSING THE INSIDE

While walking down a street one day, I passed a store where a man on the pavement was washing the large plate-glass window. There was one soiled spot which defied all efforts to remove it. After rubbing hard and using much soap and water and failing to remove it, he found out the trouble. "It's on the inside," he called out to someone in the store.

Many are striving to cleanse the soul from its stains. They wash it with tears of sorrow; they scrub it with the soap of good resolves; they rub it with the chamois of morality; but still the consciousness of it is not removed. The trouble is, "*It's on the inside.*"

Nothing but the blood of Jesus, applied by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, can cleanse the inside.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

Scripture Reading—Luke 2

GLORY FOR CHRIST, TOO

Some years ago, a mammoth fireman's parade was held in New York City. Fire fighting apparatus of all kinds were entered in the parade. In several of the vehicles rode men, women, boys and girls. Large streamers were fastened on both sides of the vehicles, bearing the words: "These were rescued from burning buildings by New York City firemen!" Their rescue brought glory to the brave firemen.

In Heaven, great glory will redound to the One who rescued us from the eternal burning by His infinite grace and precious blood! Paul spoke of "the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints" (Ephesians 1:18).

Our arriving in Heaven by His infinite grace will be glory for us—and for Him, too!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

Scripture Reading—Luke 3

ABSOLUTELY FREE

In Mexico those who sell bread often carry it in a large basket on their heads. As a Christian man left his bakery one day, he tucked his Bible under the white cloth which covered the basket. As he walked along the street, he shouted, "Bread, bread." "What kind of bread do you have?" asked a woman standing in a door. The baker replied, "I have bread that costs money and bread that is free!" "What! You have bread that you give away?" Without replying, the baker opened his basket, took the Bible from it and read this verse, "I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger."

Many, like the prodigal son, are starving in the far country when Jesus, the Bread of Life, may be had for the asking!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

Scripture Reading—Luke 4

IT WAS THE CAT'S NATURE

Timmy was just an ordinary cat. We liked Timmy because Alice, our girl, liked him. There was one thing, however, which we all greatly disliked in Timmy—he preyed upon the birds which nested in the trees in our backyard. One day, Timmy was eating a robin. I snatched the unconsumed portion of the bird from the cat. I sprinkled it with red pepper. Then I dangled the morsel temptingly before the cat. Instantly the cat's sharp teeth closed upon it, only to drop it the next instant! The cat sputtered and ran away, meowing.

Did that rather drastic procedure break the cat's habit of catching and killing more birds? No. It was the cat's nature to catch birds. I could not break his bad habit by working on him *externally.*

Man's heart is deceitful and desperately wicked. It is his nature to sin. For confirmation, read your daily newspaper. Lopping off a twig or a branch here and there does not change man's sinful nature. Man must be changed *inwardly* before he will act right *outwardly.*

Not external reformation, but inward regeneration is the answer to man's sin question.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

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Available through the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and its branch bookstores—New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston and Whiteville.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

Conflict does bring people to the realization that something important is going on. It helps us clarify what we believe; and causes us to realize, "Hey, there are two ways to look at this!"

We will be examining the issue of church politics and conflict for the next several issues. May we carefully and prayerfully consider this issue, especially in light of our approaching Convention.

Children's Home

(Continued from Page 8)

Free Union	545
Friendship	1,260
Holly Springs	1,020
Kenly	545
Little Rock	2,155
Marsh Swamp	3,243
Memorial Chapel	75
Micro	610
Milbournie	2,753
Mount Zion	744
Union Number 1	360
Union Number 2	105
First Western Sunday School Convention	118
Youth Fellowship	300
New Sandy Hill	696
People's Chapel	612
Pine Level	780
Pleasant Grove	2,328
Piney Grove	650
Pleasant Hill	629
Pleasant Plain	600
Rains Cross Roads	420
Rock Springs	84
Rosebud	360
Selma	200
Sherron Acres	2,175
Spring Hill	1,590
St. Mary's	1,940
Stancil's Chapel	1,169
Stoney Creek	3,571
Stony Hill	1,300
Trinity	8,545
Union Chapel	887
Union Grove	489
Unity (Durham)	77
Unity	372
Watson's Grove	210
Wilson, First	5,808
Durham, First	250
Living Waters	200
Mount Zion (Wilson)	375
Northern	300
Oak Grove	784
Gethsemane	
Mount Zion Sunday School (Nash)	480
Rosebud Auxiliary	50
St. Mary's Sunday School	106
Pine Level, Philea	50
Little Rock Auxiliary	110
Pleasant Grove Auxiliary	50
Fremont Layman's League	25
Kenly Auxiliary	140
New Sandy Hill Sunday School	225
Stancil's Chapel Sunday School	486
Union Grove Auxiliary	48
Union Grove Sunday School	625
Kenly Sunday School	10
Stony Hill Auxiliary	100
Flood's Chapel Auxiliary	8
Fremont Sunday School	420
Pine Level Sunday School	265
Piney Grove Sunday School	25
New Sandy Hill Auxiliary	76
	31
	25
Trinity, Olia Jones Sunday School	1,109
	10
	100
	20
Total Western Conference	$ 64,577
OTHER CHURCH REVENUE	
Religion Free Will Baptist	$ 622
Prior Year Collections	
Total Revenue – Churches	**$211,290**

COMING EVENTS

August—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as State Convention Promotional Month

August 3—Church Finance Board of Directors Meeting, Headquarters Building, Ayden

August 1-6—Woman's Auxiliary Conference, Mrs. Dola Dudley, director; Cragmont

August 9—Board of Superannuation Meeting, Headquarters Building, Ayden

August 8-13—Woman's Auxiliary Conference, Mrs. Dola Dudley, director; Cragmont

August 8, 9—Ministers' Institute; topic, "Ministerial Stress and Health": Henderson Building; 9 a.m.; Mount Olive College; Mount Olive

August 30—Registration for Fall Semester, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive

August 30—Quarterly Meeting of Board of Trustees, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive

August 31—Day Classes Begin, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive

August 31—The Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home will meet at 9:30 a.m., in Memorial Chapel Church, Middlesex

September 1—Evening Classes, Begin, Registration for Evening Classes will remain open through September 5, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive

A MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO FRANCES EDGERTON

On May 26, 1983, God saw fit to take Frances Edgerton from this earthly life to meet her Heavenly Father. The warmth of her love touched many people. She was a lifelong member of Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church. Frances was very active in all phases of the church and the woman's auxiliary work. She was secretary of the Sarah Morris Circle for many years.

"Miss Frances" as she was called by her many friends and neighbors, lived a very active and productive life. She was never too busy to help meet the needs of others. She loved visiting the sick or needy and helped in any way possible. Frances suffered here on this earth, many years from diabetes, but in Heaven she is not suffering.

This is a small tribute to pay someone who served so long and so faithfully for her Lord. The vacancy she left in our church and community has been one of sorrow, but we know that she has gone to a place of joy and happiness. We have felt a great loss, but our loss here is Heaven's gain.

Agnes Corbitt
Woman's Auxiliary President

MINISTERS' INSTITUTE TO BE HELD

The Ministers' Institute is offered as a service to ministers by Mount Olive College. The program this year is sponsored jointly by the College and the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists. All sessions will meet in the Henderson Building, Room 115. Lunch will be served in the College Cafeteria at a cost of $2.50 per meal.

Overnight accommodations may be arranged at the Southern Belle Motel, Mount Olive; telephone 658-9404. For additional information please contact the Rev. Frank Harrison, Mount Olive College; telephone: office, 658-2502; home, 658-9363.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8
MINISTERIAL STRESS
AND BURNOUT

9:00- 9:30—Coffee, South Lobby, Henderson Building

9:30-10:30—"The Nature of Clergy Stress and Burnout—Why It Strikes the Minister," the Rev. Roy M. Oswald, Director, Alban Institute, Washington, DC

10:30-10:45—Break

10:45-12 Noon—"Identifying Current Levels of Stress," the Rev. Roy M. Oswald

12 Noon-1:30—Lunch, College Cafeteria, Downtown Campus

1:30- 2:30—"Exploring Coping Strategies," the Rev. Roy M. Oswald

2:30- 2:45—Break

2:45- 3:45—"Learning How to Move More Deeply into Self-Care," the Rev. Roy M. Oswald

4:00- 5:00—Meeting of the Advisory Committee on Church Relations, Room 107, Henderson Building

7:00- —Cookout, Home of President and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, 619 West Main Street, Mount Olive. Free to all ministers and their wives with advance reservations.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9
THE MINISTER'S HEALTH,
GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

9:00- 9:30—Coffee, South Lobby, Henderson Building

9:30-10:30—"The Minister and His Spiritual Development," Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President

10:30-10:45—Break

10:45-12 Noon—"The Minister and His Professional Development," the Rev. Steve Sprinkle, Adjunct Professor, Department of Religion and Philosophy at Atlantic Christian College

12 Noon-1:30—Lunch, College Cafeteria

1:30- 2:30—"The Minister: His Nutrition and Exercise," Mr. Larry Dean, Department of Physical Education, Mount Olive College

2:30- 2:45—Break

2:45- 3:45—"The Biblical Concept of Prayer and Fasting," Mr. Calvin Mercer, Department of Religion, Mount Olive College

Each minister is requested to read: *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth* by Richard J. Foster. (New York: Harper & Row, Publishers), 1978. It may be ordered through the Free Will Baptist Press or branch bookstores.

REGISTRATION FOR MINISTERS' INSTITUTE

Mount Olive College
August 8, 9, 1983

So that the College will know how best to prepare, each minister who plans to attend the Ministers' Institute is requested to complete and return this form today. Wives are encouraged to attend. Registration is $10 per minister. Make checks payable to NC Ministerial Association.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Church _____

Conference _____

Home Telephone _____

Office Telephone _____

My wife will accompany me: _____

I (we) plan to attend:

(check appropriate blanks)

_____ August 8. Number for lunch _____

_____ August 8. Number for cookout _____

_____ August 9. Number for lunch _____

Please return this form today to: Mr. Frank R. Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 98 Number 30
August 10, 1983
Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

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New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

Fred A. Rivenbark, President; C. Felton Godwin, Secretary; James B. Hardee; Clarissa May; Adrian Grubbs; Ruth Taylor; David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, **Executive Director;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

Editorial

Laying It on the Line or Stating the Rules Before the Game Begins

The body which Christ died for, the people for whom He shed His precious blood, often see "red." The Scriptures teach that Christians will be known by their love, but "they" are too often spotted because of their splits.

This need not be. Church problems can be minimized if the rules are spelled out before the game begins. Troubles and conflicts are no longer resolved cowboy-style at high noon. When legal showdowns occur they take place downtown; there are lawyers who go before referees, otherwise known as judges—and at least everyone gets to "shoot." Churches, though, have not learned to diffuse heat and channel energies. We might do well to consider the following as codes of conduct.

The relative attention given to any matter should be in direct proportion to its prominence in Scripture. Sure, all problems need to be handled—but small matters should not receive attention over major confrontations.

Church members should be encouraged to spend at least one hour a week in prayer for the pastor, church leaders, and denominational heads. A person who seeks the Lord on **my** behalf will find me much more willing to talk with them, especially when he or she wants to change my mind about things. A good rule to follow is this: Pray for leaders at least as much as you talk about them.

Understand that having your say is more important than having your way. Every opinion matters. Everyone needs the opportunity to express his views. This does not mean, however, that we jump every time someone hollers. **But** we do listen. God's wisdom and direction are then sought.

Financial support is withheld only when the Lord stops blessing. It is not unusual to hear people say, "Stopping my offering is my only form of protest!" This also forfeits platforms upon which we can speak. It has been suggested by one pastor that his congregation do the following: "If tempted to stop giving, take a two-by-three poster and color, in three-inch letters, 'I, _____, have stopped giving money to _____ because _____.'" Be honest. Imagine posting this sign where all your Christian friends can see it. If such a sign would hamper your witness, so would withholding funds.

We will stay in the nitty-gritty of church life at all times—whether or not we hold leadership positions. We cannot remove ourselves from the creative tensions of ministry with people. This helps our decisions lean toward the practical rather than the speculative. We must stay up with what is happening. Those who know the true situation vote with more understanding.

(Continued on Page 14)

THE SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL: SOME QUESTIONS

by Adrian Grubbs

Over the years there have been many critics of the Sunday church school. We do have our weaknesses, and it may be that we have not done enough in providing quality Christian education in the Sunday school. But I am convinced that our strengths and the good that we do far outweigh our inadequacies. I, too, have some criticisms; and I am always looking for fresh ideas and ways to improve. In this article I want to raise some questions in the hopes of starting some conversation. I want you to fully understand, though, that these criticisms come from one inside the Free Will Baptist Church who is convinced that the Sunday church school does provide an indispensable and vital ministry in the church. But, as with all institutions that involve humans, our Sunday schools are not perfect and need to be seeking change that would add to the life and the effectiveness of the Sunday church school.

One of my criticisms has been with the literature. The format of our Sunday school literature has changed very little over the years. However, our people have become better educated, have more access to good commentaries, and have at their disposal several good, contemporary translations of the Bible. Why not make use of those facts and let it be reflected in our quarterlies? Rather than using expensive paper and costly printing to reproduce a Bible passage that is always too brief to be adequate for a proper understanding of the lesson, why not give the scriptural references for the students to look up in the Bible for themselves—that way they would be more encouraged to use their Bibles, to read their Bibles, to get to know their Bibles, and to bring their Bibles to Sunday school. Instead of providing another Bible commentary in our quarterlies, why not provide a study guide that encourages students to use their own available resources to research their lesson text? Bible truth that is discovered by a student doing his own research is more apt to be remembered than one that has been told to him. Then the class time could be used for more productive and interesting discussion, sharing insights and ideas. The teacher's guides could be in more detail, if need be, to be a lesson commentary and to give suggestions for leading the class discussion.

Some people are critical of our curriculum. Personally, I like the Uniform Series. It is drawn up on a six year plan with a variety of lesson topics, yet drawn together in units of related lessons. There are systematic studies in both the Old Testament and the New Testament. There are units of study on single books of the Bible. There are studies of Bible personalities. And there are periodic lessons on missions, prayer, the church, and other aspects of our biblical faith.

I also have some questions about our organizational structure. As it is now, the literature for the Sunday church school is produced, published and printed by our Press. The Sunday School Convention, on the other hand, has no input into the Sunday school literature. The Sunday School Convention meets annually for workshops, to elect officers, and to consider some items of business; however, most of the business is handled by the executive committee. Now, how would this idea work? Have the State Convention of Churches elect a Board of Christian Education. This board would be responsible for directing the office of Field Secretary for the Sunday school, and for planning annual workshops for Sunday church school teachers; then there would be no need for a business session to elect officers. And the Sunday schools would be a part of the Convention of Churches.

Whether any of these ideas would work or not I do not know. In the very least these suggestions would probably need some refining before they would be presentable. At any rate, additional research and information would be required, more ideas and input from others would be needed. But we must constantly be looking for more effective and efficient ways of carrying out our ministry of Christian education. Your thoughts and ideas will be welcomed.

What is the future for the Sunday school in the Free Will Baptist denomination, and for your local Sunday church school? Will it continue down the same road in the same direction in the same old way? Or will we do our part in guiding our Sunday church schools to reach its greatest potential and achieve its highest purpose?

NEW SANDY HILL CHURCH HAS SPECIAL DAY

The Building Committee who are from left to right: Peggy Aycock, Edith Howell, Harold Sherrod, Thelma Sherrod, Callie Bissette, Alton Manning (kneeling), and Freddie Batton.

Sunday, July 3, 1983, marked a very special day in the history of New Sandy Hill Church of Bailey, North Carolina. To begin with, the first Sunday in July is the date set aside for the annual Homecoming of New Sandy Hill Church. In addition to that, the church had a building dedication service for its new fellowship hall. It was held immediately following the morning worship outside in front of the new building. The service was led by the pastor, the Rev. K. David Hines. The highlight of the service was the unveiling of the cornerstone by members of the building committee, chaired by Mr. Callie Bissette. After the pastor pronounced the benediction, the congregation assembled in the fellowship hall to share the homecoming meal. With temperatures outside soaring into the nineties, the members and friends of New Sandy Hill learned very quickly to be thankful for their new fellowship hall.

Fellowship Hall

New Sandy Hill is most pleased with the fact that much of the work on the building was completed by members of the church giving their time. It is the prayer of the membership that the building be dedicated to the glory of God and that they would each dedicate themselves to the service of God.

Cape Fear Youth Rally Meets

The Cape Fear Youth Rally met at Palmer Memorial Church near Garner on June 4, 1983. Both attendance banners were given to Shady Grove with 18 youth and 26 overall. There were 172 people present for the rally. The program opened with a presentation of "Having a Bible and Not Reading It Daily" by the Cherubs. Myra Strickland sang a lovely song entitled "I Love Jesus Best of All." Carol Shupe read the Scripture. The program closed with a touching skit called "The Exchange" by the AFCs and YFAs. The Rev. Dewey Boling gave the invitation and the benediction. Refreshments were served in the fellowship hall.

The next meeting was held at Powhatan Church at 7:30 p.m. on August 6, 1983. They urge all churches to consider being the host churches for the October and December meetings.

Youth Sunday at Arapahoe Church

July 3 was a special day for Arapahoe Church, Arapahoe. It was Youth Sunday. Members of the Youth Fellowship, better known as the YFA, were in charge of the Sunday school hour which included providing superintendent, secretary, music, and teachers for the classes.

During the morning worship service the AFC choir rendered the special music. The president of the Youth Fellowship was the worship leader. The youth of the church chose this time to honor Mr. and Mrs. Gary Collier for their past years of faithful leadership of the youth. The highlight of the service was a play entitled, "The Heart of the Nation," presented by members of the Youth Fellowship. The play stressed the relation of service

for the country to the service for the church.

Arapahoe Church is very proud of its youth and their leaders. The Rev. Doug Skinner is the pastor of the church.

Revival Services in Progress at Mt. Tabor Church

Revival services are in progress through August 12 at Mt. Tabor Church, Creswell. The time of the services is 8 p.m. The Rev. Jack Mayo of Winterville is the guest evangelist. He is pastor of the Ormondsville Church near Ayden. The supply pastor, Frank Thigpen, and the church membership invite everyone to attend. There will be special singing each night.

FWB Choral Society to Make "Splash" with Fishy Director

For those choir members who have never learned to make a "fish mouth," rolled shoulders, twisted head and neck, and sung nonsense syllables (the choral society is not a lazy river) one is in for a refreshing swim. Through the school of hard Knox (Carolyn, that is) the members are learning more effective ways of praising God through their voices and total beings.

If one still has not joined the chorus he hasn't missed the boat. In preparation for the premier performance at the State Convention, the choir members will rehearse Thursday evening, at 7:30 p.m., August 25, at the LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange. If anyone has wanted to come but has not been able to, call Jack Bircher and get a tape of the music to be sung. His phone number is 638-8321. Just come!

The society needs people to help paddle the canoe! Help the members make better music for praise of God. The convention performance will be a first in the denomination. Join the society—Thursday, August 25, 7:30 p.m., La Grange Free Will Baptist Church, La Grange, North Carolina, just ½ mile off Route 70 in La Grange.

Appreciation Day for the Rev. and Mrs. David Hill

Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Stokes, North Carolina, surprised their pastor and his wife, the Rev. and Mrs. David Hill, on Sunday, July 3, 1983, by letting them know how they appreciated the work they were doing in their church and community. This day was the beginning of their fifth year with them. To show their love and appreciation for them after the benediction of the services, the chairman of the deacon board, Esper Futrell, presented them with a nice mantel clock.

Lunch was then served on the church grounds and everyone was happy to have their children and their families: Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Dickens of Four Oaks, North Carolina; and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Congleton and daughter, Michelle of Smithfield, North Carolina; worship with the church people on this day.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill have contributed much of their time and love to the church and community. They are always conscious of the needs of others. They don't limit their visiting, praying, and caring to just the congregation, but they take time to share themselves with the friends and relatives of the people of the church.

First Free Will Baptist Church

112 HOPE LODGE STREET

PARSONAGE ADDRESS:
108 HOPE LODGE STREET

PHONES:
CHURCH: 823-4611
PARSONAGE: 823-3964

TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27886
July 22, 1983

Dear Pastor O. B. Jones,

We, the congregation, of the Tarboro First Free Will Baptist Church, would like to take this means of expressing our love and appreciation for you and your family being a part of our church family over the last nine years.

God has richly blessed us during your ministry here. Many major, physical improvements have been made to our church property but more important are the spiritual blessings. Only God knows the countless souls that will make it to Heaven through the outreach of the radio and van ministries, Junior Church and the rest home prayer services.

We bid you God's speed with your new church family and we desire your prayers as God leads us in our search here, in Tarboro, for a new pastor.

In His Service,

Your Church Family

AFC CONFERENCE HELD

The AFC Conference at Cragmont, July 4-9, was considered our best ever. Our number was the best ever as we had 166 campers and 25 busy counselors. This year may have been viewed as different because of the information presented; but the campers were receptive and only time will tell the results. The Lord moved in His own mighty way and at least 15 accepted Christ as Saviour plus countless rededications.

Our theme was "Is There Anything I Can Do?" The emphasis of the week was on missions—not only Foreign Missions, but each child's role as a missionary himself. We were privileged to have Willem and Lydia van der Plas to teach missions classes, and Deborah King to teach and share about missions also. Dwight and Aileen Hawley shared their Thailand experiences with the campers also. The campers also learned how they could witness here at home and yet support other missionaries at the same time.

This year we presented trophies to the Female and the Male Campers of the Year. 1983 winners were: Female—Dawn Baker, Sarecta Church; and Male—Linne Fulcher, Antioch Church.

We hope the campers learned the role of missions in their lives and how it affects everything they do, whether it be playing, singing, working, or studying. Is there anything I can do for the Lord? YES!!

The Rev. Doug Skinner, *Director*

WHEN SHOULD THE BELIEVER FULFILL HIS RESPONSIBILITY?

Part 4

The Rev. Fred Baker

Every Christian must be involved in fulfilling his personal God-given responsibility of world evangelization through prayer, witnessing and giving. But let's talk about the "when" questions. When should I start? When should I take the gospel to each part of the earth? These are important questions for which we need some light.

God's Word is always a source of light. Consider Acts 1:8 as we think, "When should I start?" "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." A Christian must begin the moment he receives the Holy Spirit. A person receives the Holy Spirit the moment he repents of his sin, believes and receives Jesus Christ as his only Saviour and Lord. The Holy Spirit indwells the believer to make the believer a witness and it is time to go to work. As the Holy Spirit is allowed to renew our minds day by day, filling us more and more with His presence, we will become more involved in fulfilling our responsibility.

When should we take the gospel to each part of the earth? There is often a tragic misinterpretation made of Acts 1:8 in considering this question. Often it is read, understood, or quoted wrongly: ". . . and ye shall be witnesses unto me *first* in Jerusalem, *then* in all Judea, *then* in Samaria, and *then* unto the uttermost part of the earth." This wrong reading causes several problems.

First, it teaches Christians to first work at home (often called Jerusalem). After that is evangelized, then move out to the country or state. But the job is never finished at home. This teaching leads to acceptance by Christians of non-biblical slogans such as: "Charity begins at Home!" We will be pressed hard to find that one in the Bible and would be completely out of context to use 1 Timothy 5:8 to sustain it.

Second, it is out of keeping with the character of God. This wrong reading would indicate that God is a respecter of persons. We would feel, as did the Jews, that we who have the gospel are better than those who have never heard the gospel. The Bible teaches that God is not a respecter of persons. (See Deuteronomy 10:17; 2 Chronicles 19:7; Acts 10:34; and Romans 2:11.) God was not a respecter of persons in choosing the Jews.

Third, this wrong reading is out of context with the rest of Scripture. The rest of the Bible tells us to take the gospel to the entire world simultaneously. John 4:35 tells us: ". . . Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." The world is the field. Golden grain means it is time to harvest. When the grain has turned white, it will be lost if not harvested immediately. The world has no time for us to work selfishly at home hoping some day to take them the word of truth. They will be lost. Now is the day of salvation.

Fourth, this wrong reading is lexically incorrect. The Bible does not say *first* and *then*. The Bible does say *both . . . and*. These words, *both . . . and*, indicate as does the rest of Scripture that our responsibility as world evangelists must be carried out simultaneously. Also, a careful check of the original Greek reveals no progression in witnessing to the world. The gospel must be preached in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the entire world at the same time.

In all fairness let us consider Luke 24:47—"And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." This verse may be in the mind of a person who reads Acts 1:8 wrongly. The Holy Spirit had not been given, and at Jerusalem was where the Spirit would descend. Jesus is in effect saying: "You cannot do the job on your own. You will need some divine help. Be in Jerusalem and the Father will send you the Holy Spirit." The Holy Spirit would make of them bold witnesses. Naturally they would begin where they were, in Jerusalem. But after the Spirit had come they were to carry the gospel unto all the world simultaneously by praying, witnessing and giving.

When do I begin? The moment I become a believer with the indwelling Holy Spirit. When do I take the gospel to all the parts of the earth? All at the same time. We must have a world view. Christians must see and have compassion on the world as God does.

(Article 4 of a series of 5.)

The Rev. Fred Baker
Missionary to the Philippines

JOHN ATTENDS 4-H CAMP

John

Recently, one of our children, John, attended Millstone 4-H Camp. John's trip was sponsored by the Nash County Wildlife Club. He was the only child in the county sponsored by this club to attend.

The camp had a variety of activities such as hiking, canoeing, and swimming. John thoroughly enjoyed his trip and wishes to thank the Nash County Wildlife Club for sponsoring him.

VISIT TO THE ZOO AND EAST ROCKINGHAM CHURCH

Tuesday, July 26, the children and houseparents visited the zoo at Asheboro. The walk around "Africa" was enjoyed by all, but the Baboon Island was enjoyed most by the younger children.

After the visit to the zoo, we went to Rockingham. The East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church entertained us Tuesday night and Wednesday.

We were invited to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ponds for a cookout and pool party, with Mrs. Bunny Treadway as co-hostess. We were invited by different families to spend the night.

Wednesday morning we were treated to a breakfast at McDonald's by the church. On the way home the children were asking when they could visit the East Rockingham Church again.

We would like to take this opportunity to again thank the Rev. Carl Lyons and everyone else at East Rockingham Church for being so kind to us and for the opportunity of spending some time with them.

Hazel Brown
Houseparent
State Cottage

EDUCATION SUMMER VACATION

Schools are presently closed for the summer and the children are on vacation. Summer vacation was described by one child on campus as:

> "A time away from all the hassels of school. Such as: homework, teachers and worrying about how well I'll do on my next test."
>
> —Heidi

This child's feelings are shared by most children. We all need a change from the day-to-day routine as well as time to relax and enjoy just being ourselves. This child also expressed concern regarding the evaluation of her performance by others. This tends to be a typical problem among children, especially ones having academic difficulty in school. Therefore, the educational staff of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home is presently trying to determine the academic performance of each child on campus.

The children have been involved in a psycho-educational testing program this summer. Each child is currently being tested to determine his or her specific academic and weaknesses in language arts and in math. These test results will be used by the educational staff to assist the schools in the appropriate placement of our children for the upcoming 1983-84 school year. These scores will also be used to aid the staff in developing individual educational plans for children needing remedial tutoring beginning in September.

Hopefully, by evaluating each child academically, we will be able to provide the assistance that is needed in alleviating some of the "worries" and "fears" that the children share.

APPEAL FOR FUNDS

The summer months are always slow months for income for the Children's Home, and this summer has been no different. Our income has been very low and we would like to ask our churches, if they would, to receive a special offering to help us meet our needs.

Thank you,
Bobby R. Taylor
Executive Director

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

If you are a teacher of adults, perhaps you would like to increase your understanding of adults and your ability to help them learn. If so, then you should read *Understanding Today's Adults* and *How to Guide Adults*. The first book is by Lucein Coleman, professor of religious education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. The second book is written by Polly Cooper, a capable writer and popular conference leader in the Southern Baptist denomination. Both of these books were published by Convention Press, Nashville, Tennessee, in 1982.

Understanding Today's Adults is a book that will give you a good introduction to

(Continued on Page 14)

PROGRESS REPORT ON COLLEGE HALL

College Hall

Forbearing any unforeseen delays, T. A. Loving Company of Goldsboro has advised Mount Olive College that it hopes to complete the construction of College Hall during December, 1983. "Our hope is to give you the keys by Christmas," Mike Yates told President W. Burkette Raper.

It is anticipated that the month of January will be used for moving in furniture and equipment and in general preparation for putting the building into use.

"We anticipate that the first functions in College Hall will be in early February," President Raper said. He reported that the Board of Trustees had voted to make the first event an expression of appreciation to those whose gifts are making the dream of College Hall a reality.

Already, many denominational functions are being scheduled for the $3 million physical education-athletic-convention center. The Foreign Missions Board has reserved it for an all-day conference in March and the State Youth Convention has scheduled its annual session at the College in May.

The cost of the project is being provided by voluntary gifts and private financing. No government funds are involved in the project.

RHODES VISIT COLLEGE HALL SITE

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rhodes of Beulaville, long-time friends and supporters of Mount Olive College, are shown with President W. Burkette Raper during a recent visit to view construction progress on College Hall.

FALL SEMESTER BEGINS AUGUST 28

The fall semester at Mount Olive College will begin Sunday, August 28, when residence halls open for new and returning students. Classes will begin on Wednesday, August 31.

Limited space is still available for students who have not yet finalized their plans for the 1983-84 academic year. Financial aid is available.

Interested students are encouraged to visit, write, or call the Admissions Office (Phone 919/658-2502).

1983 MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DINNERS

Planning Sessions for the annual dinners on behalf of Mount Olive College will begin the week of August 14. The purpose of these dinners is to encourage Free Will Baptists to provide financial support toward helping the College attain its goal of becoming a four-year institution.

All contributions received through these dinners will be used for the educational purposes of the College including instructional services, library development, scholarships, and the purchase of educational equipment.

The Planning Sessions for August include:

Jones County, Sunday, August 14, 4 p.m. Pilgrim's Home Church near Dover

Onslow, New Hanover, Brunswick Counties, Monday, August 15, 7:30 p.m., Folkstone Church near Holly Ridge

Greene County, Tuesday, August 16, 7:30 p.m., Hull Road Church near Snow Hill

Edgecombe-Halifax Counties, Thursday, August 18, 7:30 p.m., First Free Will Baptist Church in Tarboro

Nash County, Sunday, August 21, 3 p.m., Free Union Church near Spring Hope

Lenoir County, Monday, August 22, 7:30 p.m., First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston

NOTICE

The Western Conference Layman's League Convention will meet with Calvary Church, Wilson, on Monday, August 15, 1983, at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is urged to attend.

Fred Boykin, *Secretary*

Now is the right time to renew you subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention
Treasurer's Report, End of First Quarter, July 31, 1983

Balance Brought Forward, April 30, 1983			$ 6,209.27
Receipts			
General Fund:			
Contributions	$ 80.00		
Registration Fees	410.00		
Per Capita Dues	9.40		
Interest	154.64		
Promotional Fund	120.87		
Life Award Fees	110.00	$ 884.91	
Denominational Enterprises		9,599.29	
Total Receipts			10,484.20
Total for Which to Account			$16,693.47
Disbursements			
Convention Expenses and Allocations		$ 1,528.95	
Denominational Enterprises		9,599.29	
Total Disbursed			11,128.24
Balance to Account for, July 31, 1983			$ 5,565.23
Summary			
Branch Banking and Trust Company (checking)		$ 2,565.23	
Mount Olive College Bonds		3,000.00	
Total		$ 5,565.23	

Total receipts this quarter include all monies received at the State Convention. Total disbursements include allocations made by the Convention. For itemized list, see the report of the Finance Committee in the minutes.

Denominational Enterprises Report

	Itemize	Received	Disbursed
Home Missions (State Project)	$ 2,304.63	$	$
Taylor Hill Memorial	25.00	2,329.63	2,329.63
Foreign Missions:			
General Fund	$ 1,218.56		
Mexico	300.00		
Palawan Library	45.00		
India	40.00		
Bibles for India	20.00		
Philippines	25.00		
State Project (Missionary wives)	375.80	2,024.36	2,024.36
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	$ 74.99		
Alice Lupton Scholarship	28.50		
Anna Phillips Student Aid	66.00		
James A. Evans Endowment	5.00		
State Project (Dishwasher)	687.00	861.49	861.49
Children's Home:			
General Fund (State Project)	$ 1,455.88		
Child Support	20.00		
Camp Fee (Cragmont)	95.00		
Music Lessons	45.00		
Children's Birthday gifts	24.00		
Clothing	75.00	1,714.88	1,714.88
Superannuation		175.00	175.00
Cragmont		846.14	846.14
Retirement Homes		270.00	270.00
Life Awards Fees (Children's Home)		275.00	275.00
Central Conference Missions		15.00	15.00
*Christian Service Fund:			
Missions	$ 241.74		
Mount Olive College	241.74		
Children's Home	181.29		
Cragmont	181.28		
Superannuation	120.87		
Retirement Homes	120.87	1,087.79	1,087.79
Total		$ 9,599.29	$ 9,599.29

*10 percent retained for promotional (see receipts $120.87)

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, *Treasurer*

SOMETHING TO CONSIDER

Dear Pastor,

Ten years ago I accepted Christ as my personal Saviour and proclaimed Him my risen Lord. I began attending your church two years ago because it was near my home. The time has now come for me to consider becoming a member of your church, which is a part of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. But before I can make that commitment, I need to ask you a few questions.

1. In order for me to become a member of a North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Church, do I have to have the same beliefs that you have?
2. Why do I hear ministers of your denomination disagree on their beliefs?
3. Why can the lay people of your denomination not explain exactly what the doctrine of the Original Free Will Baptist Church is?
4. The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists is divided into several conferences. Why does each have its own set of requirements for ordination? Should not each minister in the State Convention have to stand the same tests and meet the same qualifications?

I am very interested in joining your church, but I can do so only after learning what your beliefs are. Please let me hear from you soon, as I do have other queries which also must be answered.

Yours in Christ,

A Prospective Member

P.S. Reply requested soon! (Replies can be sent to the following address: Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513.)

NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the State Home Missions Board on August 19, 1983, at 7 p.m., at Angelo's Restaurant, Memorial Drive, in Greenville, North Carolina.

For August 14

HOPHNI AND PHINEHAS: CORRUPT PRIESTS

Lesson Text: 1 Samuel 1:3, 2:12-17, 22-25; 4:11
Memory Verse: Psalm 1:6

I. INTRODUCTION

The theme of our lesson for today may be simply stated: we are dealing with the relationship between *ritual* and *righteousness* in the lives of the people of God.

By *ritual* we mean a prescribed ceremony (such as the Lord's Supper), or in a broader sense, an act of worship or of praise to God, such as bowing or kneeling for prayer. Also included in this category is the use of any form of liturgy, from joining in the responsive reading of Scripture to the more extensive use of set forms of prayers or other elements. Any *act* of worship incorporates some degree of ritual.

By *righteousness* we mean the doing of what is right in the sight of God, living as a child of God ought to live. We repeat that the Christian should be involved in both—in the ritual act and in righteous living.

We emphasize this fact because some accept one over against the other, or neglect one through concentration upon the other. To such persons it is a matter of ritual *or* righteousness, when it should be ritual *plus* righteousness. The true worship of God embraces righteousness as well as ritual.

Ritual (or our acts of worship) should be balanced by our righteousness, and our righteousness should be accompanied by worship. Jesus spoke of those whose religion was pure ritual. They prayed, gave alms, and fasted, but they would "devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayer" (Matthew 23:14). When the scales are weighted down only by ritual, the needle unerringly indicates *hypocrisy*.

On the other hand, there are those who somehow feel that decent living will of itself maintain one in a right relationship with God. But to take this position is to say that the worship of God is not necessary, that we can get along without it. Jesus said, when breaking the bread and sharing the cup, "This do in remembrance of me" (Luke 22:19). And God's people are admonished not to forsake their assembling together (Hebrews 10:25). We must certainly live right; but if the scales are weighted only in this direction, then the needle must inevitably point toward *neglect* of the very things God has ordained to help us in Christian living. Every life needs the balance of acts of worship and righteous living.

Our lesson today is about two priests—Hophni and Phinehas—whose religion was purely a matter of ritual.

The Book of 1 Samuel begins at a critical time in the history of Israel. It was in the closing years of the period of the judges, and the nation, if it may be called that, was without strong leadership. Actually, the tribes were not united in any significant way. Most of the time "every man did that which was right in his own eyes" (Judges 17:6).

The Philistines were a threat, but the greater peril that hung over the land like a cloud was the corruption of religion. The time was around 1100 B.C.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. We should be careful never to confuse ritual and righteousness. Ritual alone is never righteousness; however, it is true that sometimes ritual helps us to be righteous. The real problem comes when we confuse the two. Some of the church rituals that help us to be righteous are the Lord's Supper, the Feet Washing, responsive reading of Scripture, etc.

B. Hophni and Phinehas desecrated the house of God by taking for themselves that which had been reserved for the Lord. By doing this they were disobedient to God's Word and were making a mockery of worship.

C. In many respects, Eli was a good man. He had served the Lord in the tabernacle for many years, but he failed in raising his sons for the Lord's service. We must never forget that it is possible for one to be very careful about many things, but fail in the rearing of his family for the Lord.

D. Hophni and Phinehas were guilty of desecrating the worship of God by taking that which was meant for the Lord; of immorality with the women who came to the tabernacle; of failing to honor their father when he spoke to them about their wickedness.

E. The Ark of the Covenant was the symbol of God's presence. But Hophni and Phinehas had left the Lord a long time before they lost the Ark to the Philistines. There was no magic about it. The magic was in the Lord himself. There is no symbol or substitute that can take the place of the Lord's presence.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A boy said to his mother, "When I grow up I am going to be a Christian like Father. Nobody knows whether he is a Christian or not." That man was like the clock in a certain courthouse tower. It had no hands. It may have been working inside, but how was anybody to know it?—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

Scripture Reading—Luke 5

CAN BRAIN SURGERY ERADICATE SIN?

Sometime ago a most unusual operation was performed upon a six-year-old "problem child" in the Wesley Memorial Hospital in Chicago. The operation is called hemispherectomy. It took nearly five hours to perform it. It is claimed that "a mean brat" was transformed by the operation into "a lovable, sweet angel!" The child could not be tolerated by either her parents or teachers. Her seizures could not be controlled by any kind of medicine. She was described as being "disobedient, disruptive, destructive, and so antagonistically unruly that teachers sent her home." She was such a behavior problem that her parents were contemplating putting her in an institution. Now, it is claimed, "all is changed. She is co-operative and gracious!"

Perhaps surgery can bring about temperamental changes in children, but it takes the soul-transforming grace of God to change sinful hearts.

MONDAY, AUGUST 15

Scripture Reading—Luke 6

CHRIST A MYTH?

"I tell you Jesus Christ is a myth," shouted an atheistic lecturer as he concluded his talk in which he ridiculed the Bible and denied the existence of God. A miner, who had come to the meeting in his grimy clothes, stood up and said, "I'm only a workingman. I don't know what you mean by the word 'myth.' But can you explain *me?* Three years ago I had a miserable home. I neglected my wife and children. I cursed and swore. I drank up all my wages. Then someone came along and told me of the love of God, and of deliverance from the shackles of sin by turning to Christ. Now all is different! We have a happy home. I feel better every way. A new power has taken possession of me since Christ came into my life! *Sir, can you explain me?"*

Oftentimes it is easier to reach the down-and-out people for Christ than religious people who have only a "form of godliness."

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16

Scripture Reading—Luke 7:1-35

FROM SIN'S DEPTH TO HEAVEN'S GLORY

A bit of human flotsam was brought by policemen into the emergency room of a city hospital. After examination, the doctor said, "Stand aside. She'll die!" But a kind, Christian nurse didn't "stand aside." *She stood by!* She sat at the bedside of the dying girl, waiting for an opportunity to speak to the girl of the love and care of God. "Does God care for anybody like me?" asked the dying girl. Assured by the nurse that He did care for her, the sinful girl said, "I've been such a bad girl. Tell me straight, does God care for a bad girl like me?" Tenderly the nurse replied, "Yes, dear, God loves you and cares for you. A God who so loved you that He gave His dear Son for your sins and my sins on His cruel Cross does care for you!" As the nurse spoke further words of assurance into ears rapidly dulling in death, a smile of confidence wreathed a face which, though marred by sin, now became beautiful. Then a forgiven, triumphant soul passed into the presence of the One who died that we might have life.

May we remember His precious words: "Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more!"

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

Scripture Reading—Luke 7:36—8:15

HE BROUGHT ME UP

Richard Almo of Pittsburgh was walking home after working on a night shift of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Works. Looking in a ravine alongside the Penn-Lincoln Highway, he saw protruding what seemed to be a man's head. Descending into the ravine, he saw that it was a living man's head. The man had been entrapped in the bog for eighteen hours. He had slowly sunk in the morass until it was almost up to his chin. He could not speak. His mouth was full of mud. He could move only his eyes. Richard dashed away for help. Nearby police and fire departments were notified. Descending into the ravine, brave men, supported by branches cut from nearby trees, crawled to where the imperiled man was and tied a rope beneath his shoulders. Then he was extricated from what would have been his grave in a short while if his plight had not been discovered. He was hospitalized for shock and pneumonia.

How aptly this incident illustrates our plight before the Saviour extricated us from the quagmire of sin and degradation!

With glowing, grateful hearts we say with David: "I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my going" (Psalm 40:1, 2).

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

Scripture Reading—Luke 8:16-56

TOO MUCH PYRUVIC IN THALAMIC CALLS

Recently a biochemist announced that within a hundred years neurologists would cope with the inherent evils of mankind on a scientific, physiological basis. He said, "Then we will not say a man is vicious, criminal, or immoral because he commits crime or immoral acts. Instead we will know that he has too much pyruvic acid in his thalamic cells, or that there is no carboxylase in his tyalamus. We will be able to tell whether or not he grew enough association neurones to descend from his cortex so that he has enough acetylcholine in his midbrain or mesencephalon!"

Do not ask me to explain these terms. I am as ignorant of them as you are. I know, however, that biochemistry cannot change the depraved heart of man which is "deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked" (Jeremiah 17:9). Nor can the religious hocus-pocus of any priest or parson stay the ravages of sin or do away with man's basic need of becoming a new creature in Christ Jesus by the miracle of regeneration: "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil" (Jeremiah 13:23).

None needs to die of spiritual thirst. All may accept the all-inclusive invitation of the Saviour: "And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Revelation 22:17).

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

Scripture Reading—Luke 9:1-43

GETTING THE SLUMS
OUT OF THE SLUMMER

In the wake of horrible crime—the murder of two teenage girls—the *Chicago Tribune* came out with a front-page cartoon whose ostensible purpose was the disclosure of the cause of the widespread and ever mounting crime wave in that great city. In the background of the cartoon were skyscraping, palatial apartment buildings and modern, stately, office structures. In the forefront of the cartoon were ratty, ramshackle, tottering tenement structures, whose approaches and surroundings were littered with rubbish and debris. Hovering over the slum scene was the shadowy form of a monstrous, red-eyed devouring wolf with claws aspread and mouth agape, ready to pounce upon its prey.

Slum clearance is good. We must remember, however, that it is one thing to get the slummer out of the slums, and another thing to get the slum out of the slummer.

Turn degenerate man, whose heart is "deceitful and desperately wicked," loose and he will, in time, turn a Garden of Eden into a shambles and a swine sty!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

Scripture Reading—Luke 9:44—10:24

HOLD ON! LET GO! WATCH FOR LIGHT!

A young man went forward and knelt at an altar of prayer. A well-wisher came and knelt beside him and said, "Just hold on!" Presently another well-meaning man came and said, "I, too, am happy that you are seeking the Lord. Just let go!" Still a third came and said, "I, too, was at this altar. I stayed here until I saw in the distance a great light, and then I knew I had it!" Going home that night, unrelieved and unsaved, the young man, who was later converted, said, "With one hand I was trying to *hold on.* With the other hand I was trying to *let go.* All the while I was peering into the darkness, looking for some mysterious light. As I walked along, I cried to God for mercy and forgiveness. Then this verse flashed into my mind, 'But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God.' By faith I received Him, and He received me!"

The only hope for a peaceful world is the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Portions selection from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

A majority vote **can** be viewed as a strong indication of God's will at the time. **If** a board or committee **has been called by God,** it stands to reason that He will speak through those individuals. The minority may still be right but the timing be wrong.

Every dissenting vote symbolizes a possible word of caution from the Lord. No one wants or needs a rubber-stamp committee. The objective should be well-reasoned, enthusiastic unanimity. But the road there usually produces more than a few gray hairs. I can hold very high respect for those who freely express their views but who, when not in the majority, fully give themselves to carrying out the adopted program. We should always ask: Do they have more facts than I do? Do they have more experience? Could they be right and the timing wrong? Could I be right and the timing wrong? Is there a scriptural reason why I can't fully support this suggestion?

Never keep silent in a meeting on an issue that you will not keep silent on outside the meeting. Sure, some of the best logic is saved for one's spouse and walls. It is unrealistic to expect everyone to struggle through an important argument behind closed doors and never mention a word at home. But the trouble develops when opinions expressed clearly outside the meeting never get voiced within! (Perhaps notable verdicts should never be made the first time an idea is introduced in order to allow time for feedback.)

People can still love/respect one another while rejecting individual ideas.

Spiritual authority or knowledge should not be used as a club to force passage of an issue or program.

Enough said.

Home Missions

HAYMOUNT MISSION HELPS HOME MISSIONS

The Haymount Mission in Fayetteville, North Carolina, had a car wash and donut sale to help raise money for Home Missions. They raised $123.08 at their car wash and $208.80 selling donuts making a total of $331.88. This was raised in addition to their regular support. This mission has been self-supporting since its beginning. The pastor is the Rev. Dean Kennedy.

NOTICE

The annual meeting of the Membership of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 1983, in the Multi-purpose Room located in the Foundation building. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m.

CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 5)

adulthood. It examines the biblical understanding of adulthood, the coming challenges of a greatly increased adult population, what it means to be an adult, the marks of mature adulthood, the developmental characteristics of early, middle, and later adulthood, and how adults learn.

How to Guide Adults is concerned with the practical matters involved in helping adults learn. It examines how the leader or teacher should view his or her role, the importance of caring for adults, how to motivate adults, affect adult learning, plan for learning, guide the learning experience, choose and use the best teaching-learning methods, how to evaluate learning, and how to be a confident and relaxed leader. It also contains some helpful exercises and learning activities at the end of each chapter.

If both of these books are carefully read and studied, you will find that your understanding of adults and your ability to guide their learning will be significantly increased. The combined cost of these paperback books is only $5.10. Every Sunday School could buy a copy of these books for its adult teachers. They can be ordered through the Press or one of the branch bookstores.

CRAGMONT SUPERBALL GOLF TOURNAMENT

August 26, 1983

Again this year there will be a Cragmont Golf Tournament. The purpose for this tournament is to raise funds for the payment on the main building. However we want you to have some fun and fellowship in the process. In order for this tournament to be successful we need you whether you play golf or not.

Again this year the tournament will be superball style. Four people will form a team and each team will compete for First Place.

This year we expect to have over 100 golfers which means that you must get your registration in early. We plan to have two tee times, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. You need to indicate on the form which tee time you desire. If you choose the afternoon tee time you may come early and enjoy the pool while you wait.

We also would like you to know that there is a meal catered by Bill's of Wilson. Don't miss this part. We need you for our tournament. Sign up now.

Name_____

Address _____

Phone _____

Tee Time: Morning Afternoon

Please indicate your playing range below

100-over ☐	89-85 ☐	74-under ☐
99-95 ☐	84-80 ☐	I am a non-player ☐
94-90 ☐	79-75 ☐	How many in your party will be present for the evening meal? _____

To register yourself please send this form and $25 to John Watson, Route 1, Box 522, Wilson, North Carolina 27893; phone, 237-8472.

This tournament will be played at Happy Valley Country Club in Wilson, North Carolina, on August 26, 1983.

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Let's face up to the music. We as Original Free Will Baptists have our problems—and they are destroying our witness.

Generational realities—differences in age, cultural background, and experience—constantly surface as contributing factors to conflict. Instead of appreciating generational distinctions, minor differences are transformed into major conflicts. Many of our "senior" pastors "came of age" between 1940 and 1960, a time when society's efforts were successful and the church held a prominent place. The age of technology ushered in economic expansion; and at the same time, fads came and went. Changes nearly always meant regression. As a result, these "senior" ministers came to believe in the value of tradition and working for the Kingdom of God within the existing structure.

On the other hand, those ministers who came along in the 1960s and '70s witnessed the limitations of human efforts. Our country lost prestige, and the war on poverty became real here at home. The church lost its place of respect; and as a result, most younger pastors are willing to tamper with existing structures.

When these two groups come together there is bound to be some level of conflict. Then again, these background differences are compounded by changes in church life. These barriers are not insurmountable. The Prophet Joel envisioned a community where sons and daughters would share the dreams of old men. Such a community is able to draw on the wealth of God found within each individual. The idealism of youth can be tempered by the wisdom of experience and the routine of tradition can be energized by the exuberance of youth. The end result? It does not need to be idealism or cynicism but biblical realism. Understanding and respect can diffuse these conflicts—but we must remember to see things as others see them; and respect has to flow both ways.

Theological differences can produce conflict even where love abounds. Every congregation holds certain essentials—sure! But conflict often comes in applying theology to twentieth-century living. Dealing with the role of women, divorce, worship patterns, applied sanctification brings trouble. It has been said that "the only churches that are one-minded in all matters are churches where only one mind is allowed to function" (Wayne Jacobsen). (Perhaps we need to read that quote again and digest the truth therein.)

Now, the existence of these differences cannot be overlooked or underestimated. Yet, they do not have to divide people—they can be stepping-stones to both personal growth and biblical enrichment. But these differences must never be paraded before a congregation or group.

Generational and theological differences are but two problems we have. They exist in our churches, on our boards, throughout our ranks. Perhaps, though, the hardest conflict we have to resolve is our preoccupation of majoring in minors.

(Continued on Page 14)

Divers Diseases

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

We read in Matthew, Mark, and Luke that Jesus healed many people who had "divers diseases." I think that Luke speaks for them all when he says, "Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid hands on every one of them, and healed them" (Luke 4:40).

Sickness and disease are as different as the people themselves. Divers diseases could mean almost anything, for it includes everything.

There is another form of divers diseases prevalent in our modern age. It too, has many forms and it even reaches epidemic proportions, and the results can be tragic.

One of the symptoms of divers diseases is seen among people who always dive for the back pew in church. This makes it embarrassing for families with small children and parents with babies who are forced to go nearer the front. It also creates a difficulty for the ushers when latecomers arrive and must be escorted to the front after the service has begun.

While this disease can usually be cured with a little courteous persuasion from the ushers, sometimes this may cause complications. The youthful backseat divers often get to the place that they just cannot sit still.

There is further evidence of divers disease when the offering plate is passed and you see people dive to the bottom of their pockets to find the nickels and pennies. This is called deep pocket diving and is extremely dangerous, because it can spread into deadly covetousness which the Bible classes as idolatry.

Those who dive for as little as possible testify of their low estimate of what the gospel is worth to them. Your giving is a Bible yardstick measuring your love (2 Corinthians 8:8).

The best cure is to dive into the ocean of God's mercy and love. Then rub yourself vigorously with the towel of gratitude. Then a big dose of thanksgiving and compassion mixed in equal parts.

Don't sleep on a mattress stuffed with selfishness. Replace it at once with one filled with stewardship, and take daily exercise working in God's vineyard.

Another form of divers disease is very distressing in the church service. It begins when people make quick glances in the direction of the clock, and then they begin to look at the exit. They close their hymnbooks before the last hymn is finished and are ready to dive for their coats. As soon as the benediction is pronounced they dive for the door. They miss a lot of the warm fellowship at the close of the service.

Some divers are not sick, but have extremely bad manners. Just as soon as the minister begins to speak some will dive for the ear of a neighbor and whisper into it. This usually bothers those that are sitting nearby. Little snickers and giggles often accompany this diving.

While many forms of divers diseases may be seen in church, they are not all found in church. Some people make a dive for their car on Sunday morning and go fishing or camping or to the beach. This is a very contagious one. Their

(Turn the Page)

explanation is, "I can worship God just as well outdoors as I can in a church." This is like the drunk who says, "I can take a drink or I can leave it alone." Are they right? Most of the time they end up drunk. It is best not to get too close to those who have this disease. They may be carriers. Those who have the habit of attending church regularly never have this disease.

Divers diseases are almost endless. Some people dive for the TV on Sunday morning or evening instead of coming to church. Others bury themselves in the paper or a magazine.

Mental sewage will destroy all the good intentions a person might have. "Keep thyself pure," was Paul's message to Timothy. Purity does not just happen. You are made pure by avoiding all the things that are corrupt, and by cultivating that which is pure.

When Sunday comes around some people dive for their golf clubs and head for the greens. They play all day and then they are too tired to go to church on Sunday night. Then there are those who dive for the bed and take a long nap. Some do this in church. Some dive for the shop and work all day on something they want to finish. Some dive to the field on Sunday to finish plowing what they should have done on Saturday instead of going to the ball game. Still others have to catch up on cleaning the house and cooking a big dinner.

There are remedies for all divers diseases. They may vary from one to another. But there is one cure that is always very effective and never fails. The cure is simply this. Wake up on Sunday morning in time to get a good breakfast and get dressed and then dive for church.

Now is the right time to renew you subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

Free Will Baptists in the News

DAUGHTRY SERVES AS PRESIDENT

Vicki Daughtry

A member of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield was recently chosen to head a 15 state organization of high school newspapers.

Vicki Daughtry was elected president of the Southern Interscholastic Press Association during the group's annual Spring convention in Columbia, South Carolina. Vicki is editor of her award winning high school newspaper, *The Spartacus.* She is the daughter of Mr. J. A. Daughtry and Mrs. Will R. Crocker, both of Smithfield.

"I feel honored to have been chosen," Vicki said, "Especially since there were over 500 high schools represented." Vicki added that she is the first girl to be chosen as president. "It pleases me that people voted for me for what I stood for," she said.

As president, Vicki's duties will include attending a planning session in South Carolina, attending the national convention in New York, and presiding over the Southern group's annual convention next spring.

At Smithfield-Selma High School, where Vicki is a rising senior, she has helped lead her school's newspaper into award winning status. Under her editorship *The Spartacus* achieved a "superior" rating and next year Vicki and her staff are striving for "all southern," the highest ranking possible.

At the First Free Will Baptist Church, Vicki is active in the youth activities and other church programs. She has served as church pianist since she was 12 years old.

"I love the people at the church," Vicki says. "They make me feel really special. Besides, I enjoy my work at the church a lot."

Vicki admits that there are many Sunday nights she could be out doing other things with her friends. "But using my talents in church is the least I can do. It's not as big a deal as dying on a cross, but I'm trying to do my part." In the future Vicki hopes to use her music to reach others. "Certain songs make me cry. You see, that's the way God got to me," she explains. "I've been going to church since I was a baby. But I never really understood until I started playing the piano and I want to give others this same opportunity."

Vicki hopes to combine her love for music with her love for children. "I would love to be a missionary and teach kids about God through music."

Vicki's pastor is the Rev. Philip Wood. "Vicki is one of the most dedicated, enthusiastic, and intelligent teenagers I have had the pleasure to be associated with," he states. "She brings a special spirit and class to all our worship services. Her life is a splendid example of Christian love and concern for others. Vicki will be a success in all her endeavors in life, because her dedication will make her stick to the job at hand, and her sense of humor will make the toughest task bearable."

TAYLOR PRESENTED AWARD

Genevieve M. (Ginny) Taylor of Snow Hill was presented the coveted "Silver Beaver Award" at the East Carolina Council of Boy Scouts of America Banquet held recently in Kinston.

This award is the highest recognition that is given to a volunteer scouter by a council.

Mrs. Taylor was nominated for this honor because of her dedicated services rendered to the scouting program, her community and church.

She has been involved in scouting for approximately nine years and serves as Den Leader for Pack 606. She has assisted in organizing special education scouting programs in the Greene County Schools and has served on the Caswell Cub Scout Training Committee. She is chairman of "In School Scouting" for the East Carolina Council.

The Taylor family are all involved in scouting and were selected as "Scout Family of the Year" in 1973.

Mrs. Taylor's husband, Danny, serves her Pack 606 as cubmaster and is scoutmaster of Troop 606.

The Pack and Troop are both sponsored by the Layman's League of Free Union Free Will Baptist Church.

The Taylors have two sons, Danny, 17, who has earned his Eagle; and Charles, 13, who is First Class in Scouting.

Although Mrs. Taylor devotes much of her time to scout activities, she is also a member of the American Business Women's Association, serving presently as president; and two teacher sororities, Alpha Delta Kappa and the Gamma Mu Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Mrs. Taylor has twenty-five years experience in education and has taught in Selma, Goldsboro and Snow Hill and is presently employed as a supervisor in the Greene County School System.

The Taylors are members of Free Union Free Will Baptist Church.

The parents of the scouts, who are members of her troop, cannot say enough about Mrs. Taylor's dedication and the time she devotes to her scouting activities. "She is very deserving of this award and the honor that was bestowed upon her," replied Rhonda Sugg.

COMING EVENTS

August—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as State Convention Promotional Month

August 19—State Home Missions Board to meet at 7 p.m., at Angelo's Restaurant, Memorial Drive, Greenville

August 22-26—Faculty Conferences, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive

August 23—Quarterly Meeting of Board of Trustees, 3 p.m., Mount Olive College, Mount Olive

August 31—Fall Semester Begins at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive

September—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

September 5—Labor Day

September 5—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and all Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston, and Whiteville

September 6—Annual Meeting of the membership of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. will be held in the Multi-purpose Room located in the Foundation building. The time of the meeting is 10 a.m.

September 9—Pastors' and Superintendents' Banquet, time and place to be announced

September 13—Statewide Evangelism Conference, 7:30 p.m.

September 14, 15—North Carolina State Convention of Churches, Everett Chapel Church, 307 Everett Avenue, Clayton

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WHEN . . .

When physical recreation means more to you than spiritual re-creation,
When entertainment means more to you than evangelism,
When worldly things mean more to you than worshiping,
When physical food means more to you than spiritual food,
When the praise of others means more to you than the prayers of God's children,
When the will of your spouse means more to you than the will of the Saviour,
When the pressures of your peer group mean more to you than the preciousness of Jesus,
When the pittance of Satan means more to you than the promises of Scripture,
When the fellowship of belonging means more to you than the fellowship of believing,
When the quest for things means more to you than the quest for God,
When the applause of sinners means more to you than the approval of saints,

Your Christian Experience Is Suspect!

—Selected

NOTICE TO ALL THOSE HOLDING MEMBERSHIPS OF THE FWB PRESS FOUNDATION, INC.

To clarify the notice sent concerning proxies: You may assign someone, a proxy, to attend the annual meeting for you, **or** you may attend the membership meeting yourself.

Fred Rivenbark

ESCAPE TO REALITY

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

When it comes to faith, I've observed, it is the present tense that is usually shortchanged. We do well on events that happened decently long ago. Why is it, I wonder, that a Golden Age of anything is always somewhere in the past? Why do we never recognize a Golden Age when we're in the midst of one? Many of us—churches, too—are living in the Land of Was, trying to recapture the glow of victories past, forever telling how it used to be.

Faith's futurism has also received an overshare of attention. We sing about a balm in some ethereal Gilead, scarcely conscious of spiritual ointment available for today's wounds. We sing songs of praise about the sweet by-and-by, but where is the soaring evangelical hymnody of the here and now —songs that make us feel it is an incomparable privilege to be alive, come what may?

This side of the Third World we have almost convinced ourselves that, for Christians, the going is not supposed to be rough; we're not supposed to become depressed, have marital problems, generation gaps, business failures, sorrows. Tragedy, we say, is something that happens to unbelievers, and if it does overtake the faithful, we presume it to be embarrassing evidence of a flawed faith. So we engage in the Big Cover-up, cloaking our humanity, our hurts, our failures—not under a mantle of love, but behind a curtain of deceit—because we cannot face the exposure of being honest and real.

Much of what passes as Bible-believing, Spirit-filled evangelical piety is, I am convinced, little more than Christian role playing. We act the way we think we are expected to act. We admit to nothing that tarnishes our self-projected image. We hide in past and future.

And inside, afraid to be real, we crumble.

Reality is not an abstraction. It is achievable only in specifics. It is what I am and you are at this moment, in this place, with masks off. It is something not to escape from but to escape to. As frightening as the prospect of transparent honesty may appear, reality is not necessarily hostile. It can be friendly. At least, that is my experience. It is where healing must be found, where health must be lived out. It precludes refuge in the drug and alcohol scene or in its religious equivalent.

Reality brings release and freedom as nothing else can, but it cannot be experienced apart from Jesus who gives us courage to take the first timorous step into our threatening Jordan Rivers, without which the waters of pretense and hypocrisy will not and cannot roll back.

The Velveteen Rabbit by Margery Williams (Doubleday), written for children but to my mind even more meaningful for role-playing adults, says it in gentle allegory:

> *The Skin Horse had lived longer in the nursery than any of the others. He was so old that his brown coat was bald in patches and showed the seams underneath, and most of the hairs in his tail had been pulled out . . . . He was wise, for he had seen a long succession of mechanical toys arrive to boast and swagger, and by-and-by break their mainsprings and pass away, and he knew that they were only toys, and would never turn into anything else . . . .*
>
> *"What is REAL?" asked the Rabbit one day, when they were lying side by side near the nursery fender, before Nana came to tidy the room. "Does it mean having things that buzz inside you . . .?"*
>
> *"Real isn't how you are made," said the Skin Horse. "It's a thing that happens to you. When a child loves you for a long, long time, not just to play with, but REALLY loves you, then you become Real."*
>
> *"Does it hurt?" asked the Rabbit.*
>
> *"Sometimes," said the Skin Horse . . . . "When you are Real, you don't mind being hurt."*
>
> *"Does it happen all at once, like being wound up," he asked, "or bit by bit?"*
>
> *"It doesn't happen all at once," said the Skin Horse. "You become. It takes a long time. That's why it doesn't often happen to people who break easily, or have sharp edges, or who have to be carefully kept. Generally, by the time you are Real, most of your hair has been loved off and you get loose in the joints and very shabby. But these things don't matter at all, because once you are Real you can't be ugly, except to people who don't understand . . . . Once you are Real you can't become unreal again. It lasts for always."*

On my pilgrimage toward trying to become real, I have found much help in the writings of Henri Nouwen. In *The Wounded Healer* (Doubleday), this Catholic priest points out: "The Christian leader is not one who reveals God to his people—who gives something he has to those who have nothing—but one who helps those who are searching to discover reality as the source of their existence."

It is possible, I now believe, for a person to be the real thing. But don't expect to see mass conversions. It is still, as I perceive it, only for individual souls who find courage to make

(Continued on Page 14)

Mount Olive College

MOC PREPARES FOR THIRTY-SECOND YEAR

When Mount Olive College opens this fall, it will mark the beginning of the thirty-second year of educational services to Original Free Will Baptists. It will also mark the last year of operation as a two-year college. In its transition to a four-year institution, the College will add the Junior year in 1984 and the Senior year in 1985.

Major goals for the 1983-84 year include:

1. Completion of College Hall, a $3 million physical education-athletic-convention center.
2. Computer Education. Ten new Apple IIe computers are being installed for instructional use.
3. Continued development of the four-year program.

The calendar for the fall semester includes:

August 22-26	Faculty Conferences
August 23 (3 p.m.)	Meeting of the Board of Trustees
August 28	Arrival of Students
August 31	Regular Classes Begin
September 12	Night Classes Begin

Students who have not already made college plans still have time to enroll. Information may be obtained by writing, visiting, or calling the Admissions Office (919/658-2502).

NEWS AND NOTES

Quarterly Meeting of Piedmont Conference Meets

The Quarterly Meeting of the Piedmont Conference was held Saturday, July 29, 1983, at Christian Faith Church, Belews Creek. There was very little business handled since the annual meeting will be coming up in August.

The annual meeting will be held at Wayside Tabernacle Church on Lake Road in Thomasville, North Carolina, on August 26, 27.

The Ordaining Council met and licensed Brother Roger Montsigner to preach the gospel. He will be under the watchcare of the church for one year. He is from the House of Prayer in Kernersville, North Carolina.

Haymount Mission to Be Organized into a Church

The Haymount Mission in Fayetteville was started by the late Rev. Taylor Hill, the first State Home Missions Director. The Rev. Dean Kennedy is now the missionary and the mission is planning to be organized into an Original Free Will Baptist Church on August 21, 1983, at 3 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and share in this blessed event.

Retirement Homes

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS JULY, 1983

Total $484.00

CAPE FEAR	
Smithfield, First	$ 25.00
Total	$ 25.00
CENTRAL	
Bethany	$ 25.00
Edgewood	5.00
Gum Swamp	50.00
Total	$ 80.00
EASTERN	
Beaufort Mission	$100.00
Bridgeton	32.00
Saints Delight	150.00
Smith's New Home	30.00
Total	$312.00
WESTERN	
Flood's Chapel	$ 12.00
People's Chapel	25.00
Sherron Acres	25.00
Total	$ 62.00
STATEWIDE	
First St. Cloud, Florida	$ 5.00
Total	$ 5.00

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Ralph Sumner has resigned as pastor of the Oriental Free Will Baptist Church, Oriental, effective October 9, 1983, and he will be available to any church that might desire his services as pastor. His phone number is 249-1329 and his address is P.O. Box 298, Oriental, North Carolina 28571.

The Rev. N. D. Wiggs is available for both pastoral and evangelistic services. He may be contacted at 23 Crescent Drive, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; or by calling him at (919) 522-3702.

FWB CHORAL SOCIETY TO MAKE "SPLASH" WITH FISHY DIRECTOR

For those choir members who have never learned to make a "fish mouth," rolled shoulders, twisted head and neck, and sung nonsense syllables (the choral society is not a lazy river) one is in for a refreshing swim. Through the school of hard Knox (Carolyn, that is) the members are learning more effective ways of praising God through their voices and total beings.

If one still has not joined the chorus he hasn't missed the boat. In preparation for the premier performance at the State Convention, the choir members will rehearse Thursday evening, at 7:30 p.m., August 25, at the La Grange Free Will Baptist Church, La Grange. If anyone has wanted to come but has not been able to, call Jack Bircher and get a tape of the music to be sung. His phone number is 638-8321. Just come!

The society needs people to help paddle the canoe! Help the members make better music for praise of God. The convention performance will be a first in the denomination. Join the society—Thursday, August 25, 7:30 p.m., La Grange Free Will Baptist Church, La Grange, North Carolina, just ½ mile off Route 70 in La Grange.

Foreign Missions

WHAT IS NEEDED FOR EVANGELISM TO TAKE PLACE?

Part 5

The Rev. Fred Baker

World Evangelization sounds and is an enormous task for which every child of God stands responsible. Responsibility always mandates accountability. We can take the gospel to the world simultaneously through praying, witnessing and giving.

Often a big job is more easily completed if broken down into smaller jobs. For instance, the world includes a little over five billion people. Why not take them one at the time and lead them to Jesus? If every Christian would help, it could be done. It is not that hard to bring a person to Jesus. There are really only four ingredients that must be present for evangelism to take place.

A witness is needed. The Scriptures in Romans 10:14 reveal the need of a witness. "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?" A witness is one that knows God personally with the forgiveness of sin and is willing to tell others what God has and can do. Every Christian must be a witness. A sinner must hear of Jesus before he can believe on Him.

The Word of God must be present. Without the Words of God, our Bible, we would never have known the will of God regarding sin. Without the Word we could never have expressed faith in Christ. "So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17). The Word of God is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16). The Word of God must be present.

For evangelism to take place there must be a sinner. It is not hard to find a lost person. We are all born as sinners. Man does not lie, cheat and steal to become a sinner. He does those things because he is a sinner, by birth. God wants to change that and give him new life in Jesus Christ. The witness is to plant the Word of God into the hearing of a lost person and leave the results with God.

The last ingredient in evangelism is the Holy Spirit. The witness cannot save people. The Holy Spirit will bring understanding of the Word of God to the sinner. The Spirit will bring conviction of sin. If the sinner will repent, believe and trust in Christ, the Spirit will bring new life and place the converted sinner into the family of God. The Spirit will begin a lifetime process of guiding, teaching, and renewing the believer day by day.

Is it hard to lead people to Jesus? No, as we can see from the four ingredients—a witness, the Word, a sinner, the Holy Spirit—evangelism is the work of God that He delights to involve the Christian in. We need only to allow God to prepare our hearts and be available for Him to use as His mouthpiece.

The people of this world are lost and bound for a devil's Hell. They are our responsibility. Shall we individually and collectively claim and evangelize the entire world for the name sake, honor and glory of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour?

(Article 5 of a series of 5.)

Fred Baker
Missionary to the Philippines

NOTICE

When last in session, the Albemarle Woman's Auxiliary Convention talked in reference to the establishment of an endowment scholarship at Mount Olive College in memory of the Rev. A. B. Chandler and in honor of Mrs. A. B. (Minnie) Chandler. Delegates were to discuss this matter with their local auxiliaries. It is asked that monies for this cause be brought to the October meeting of the Convention, if local auxiliaries deem it proper to support this cause.

Becky Jo Sumner
Albemarle WA Convention, President

WHERE THE STORM MAY CARRY YOU

There is a beautiful figure in one of Wordsworth's poems about a bird swept from the rough and rocky country habitat by the strong winds of a storm. The bird battled desperately, trying to get back to its familiar home, but all in vain. At last, it yielded to the wind, thinking that the storm would carry it to its death, but the gale carried it across the waves and brought it to a sunny land with its green meadows and its forest glades.

How many of us have been like that little voyager, fretting and fighting against the will of God! We think life can never be the same again when we are carried seaward by the storm, until at last, we cease our struggling and yield to the wind, only to find that we have been carried to a place far better. God's Word encourages us to praise

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CHILDREN'S HOME RESIDENTS VISIT THE CAPITOL AREA

Pictured above are the residents of the Home as they prepared to leave campus for Raleigh, North Carolina, where they visited the History Museum, the Legislative Building, the State Capitol Building and the Natural History Museum. The children were accompanied by their houseparents and by the Home's new Director of Recreation, Wayne Lewis, who planned this trip for our children.

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
July 1, 1982 – June 30, 1983
Part 2

Because of the gifts printed last week, 50 children have been served during the past year. On behalf of each child who has been fed, clothed, sheltered from neglect and abuse, and led to salvation through our ministry, we sincerely thank you for your support. Please pray with us that the coming year will bring even greater services to children who have been deprived of a normal, happy home with their own family. Together, with God's help, we can make a difference!

MEMORIAL CHAPEL NEEDS REPAIR

Since 1952 Memorial Chapel has stood in the center of the campus of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home as a reminder of our mission and commitment to Christianity and Christian child care. The years have taken their toll and now the roof around the steeple is badly in need of replacement and some of the window frames need repair or replacement. The cost of this need is approximately $4,000 and we are making an appeal to our churches, Sunday schools, laymen's leagues, and individuals to help us meet this additional need.

MEMORIAL AND HONORARY GIFTS
April, May and June 1983

IN MEMORY OF

Henry Herndon by Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Herndon, and by Pleasant Grove Church

Mrs. Virginia W. Mercer by Randy Penny

Raymond Field by Pleasant Grove Church/Mr. Hare

Bobby McRoy by Mrs. C. L. Westbrook Sr.

C. D. Whitford by Mrs. C. L. Westbrook Sr.

L. B. Kinlaw Sr. by Mrs. C. L. Westbrook Sr.

Wiley R. Davis and Dona P. Davis by Mrs. C. H. Baker

Filena Brickhouse by Soundside Church

IN HONOR OF

David and Madora Day by Mrs. Earl C. Day

OWENS LEAVE

Pictured above are Charles and Lillian Owens who recently left our agency. Mr. and Mrs. Owens served as Houseparents in our child care ministry nearly two years and were very dedicated to this ministry. They will be sorely missed by children and staff alike. Mr. and Mrs. Owens will continue to serve children as they have accepted another child care position.

NEW HOUSEPARENTS

Pictured above are Billy and Sherry Watson. They are our newest houseparents, filling the vacancy left by the resignation of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Owens. The Watsons are familiar with the child care ministry, as they left another child care agency to join us. They assumed their duties in

(Turn the Page)

Central Cottage August 1, 1983. Mr. and Mrs. Watson have one child, Micah, age 3. We welcome these new houseparents to our campus family.

A NEW EXPERIENCE FOR JOHN

John

Recently, the children and staff of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc. gave John a party. John was transferred from our group care program into our foster care program. He was very excited and happy about going into foster care and is adjusting very well.

We are all happy and excited for John, but will miss his smiling face around our campus. Good luck, John, we love you!

CHURCH VISITS THE CHILDREN'S HOME

On Sunday, August 7, 1983, a group from the First Free Will Baptist Church of Smithfield visited the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc.

After arriving on campus at 4 p.m. they toured the campus. After the tour, we all joined in the kitchen for a delicious meal and a time of fellowship.

Our evening worship service was held in Memorial Chapel with the Rev. Philip Wood being in charge. The worship service was very inspiring and we all received a great blessing.

We enjoyed our fellowship with the group from the First Free Will Baptist Church of Smithfield and wish to thank them for coming and also to extend an invitation for them to come again.

1983 State Convention Nearing

The Seventy-first Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, along with the Night of Evangelism, will be held at Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, 307 Everett Avenue, Clayton, North Carolina, September 13-15.

The Night of Evangelism services, scheduled for Tuesday evening, will feature Mr. Robert Shank as speaker. Mr. Shank is the author of *Life in the Son: A Study of the Doctrine of Perseverance* and *Until: The Coming of Messiah and His Kingdom.*

The Convention will get under way on Wednesday morning, with a full schedule of events (which will be announced in a later publication). Mr. Shank will address the Convention again on Wednesday morning and Dr. Burkette Raper is the speaker for the Thursday worship service. The 1983 Mission Rally will be held on Wednesday evening. The Home Missions Department of the North Carolina State Convention is in charge of this year's rally.

For August 21

JONATHAN AND DAVID: LOYAL FRIENDS

Lesson Text: 1 Samuel 18:1-4; 19:4-6; 23:15-18; 2 Samuel 1:26
Memory Verse: 1 Samuel 18:3

I. INTRODUCTION

There are books on the market designed to help us improve our relations with other people. One such book suggests ways we can make friends and have a bearing on others' lives. One has only to read in it a short time until he gets the feeling that its purpose is to show the reader "how to impress folk and use people." To be fair, the book does give many excellent suggestions, such as our taking an interest in other persons and being concerned for their needs. From one perspective, it suggests a caring attitude that may even be mistaken as Christian. But the thesis seems to be that the entire process of making friends is a means whereby one may, through these "friends," achieve his own goals in life. Such an attitude as this is wholly incompatible with genuine friendship, which is not a means at all but a greatly-to-be-desired end in itself. Apart from the friendship of Christ, perhaps one can have no greater blessing on this earth than to have a friend.

Friends such as we are considering are rare—but they are not totally unavailable. It is just that true friendship requires cultivation, and in our frantic environment it is difficult. (So hectic is our situation that even in many homes the sharing of real friendship is difficult.) Then, too, there are certain qualities of character that make friendship possible. Unless we possess those qualities and our lives touch others with similar qualities, true friendship never will be experienced.

In this lesson we will consider a friendship that for centuries has been considered a model for all time—the friendship between Jonathan and David. (As we study, we will do well to keep in mind our lesson of two weeks ago about Naomi and Ruth.) We will give attention to the qualities present in the lives of Jonathan and David that made their friendship possible, if not inevitable. Hopefully, our study will then enable us to evaluate our own character and personality as related to our capacity for genuine friendship.

The time of our lesson is about 1025 B.C. when the period of the judges was drawing to a close. Samuel, the last of the judges, had anointed Saul to be the first king of Israel. The Philistines, from the coastal plains, had invaded the hill country and were posing a great threat to the security of Saul's people. When they were encamped about seven miles north of Jerusalem, Saul's son Jonathan, alone at night with his armor bearer, scaled a ravine and attacked an outpost of the enemy, slaying about twenty of them (1 Samuel 14:13, 14). In the darkness the enemy panicked and scattered. When the watchmen of Saul reported what was taking place, the king rallied his forces and pressed the attack. The result was that the Philistines suffered an overwhelming defeat. We mention this to introduce the fact that Jonathan was a man of valor, if not even daring.

Subsequently, the Philistines threatened war once again but had scarcely left the lowlands when the army of Saul met them at Socoh (Shochoh), about twenty miles southwest of Jerusalem. The men of Israel were overcome with great fear, however, when the Philistine giant Goliath appeared to challenge them. Day after day he called for a champion to face him in single combat, but none among the ranks of Israel dared to do so, until David, the youngest son of Jesse, visited the camp on an errand for his father. The story of how David killed the giant is too well known to need repeating here. The Philistines fled the scene, and Saul had David brought into his presence.

We may be sure that David received a hero's welcome at the hands of Saul, and the public acclaim with which he was greeted is unmistakable. David, a mere stripling (1 Samuel 17:33), had dared to face the most powerful warrior in the Philistine army, and he had been almost nonchalant about the matter. "The LORD . . . will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine," he had assured Saul before the battle (17:37). With a single stone he dropped Goliath and then killed him with his own sword. Now he was receiving a victor's welcome.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A legend is told about two men, Damon and Pythias, who lived in Syracuse, a city in Sicily, in the fourth century B.C. They were both young philosophers, and noted for being unusually devoted friends. The ruler of Syracuse, Dionysius by name, condemned Pythias to death for plotting against his rule. Pythias asked to go home to arrange his private affairs, and Dionysius permitted him to do so when Damon offered himself as a hostage in his place. Pythias was delayed, and Damon was about to be put to death when the condemned man returned. Dionysius was so impressed by this example of faithful friendship that he pardoned Pythias and begged to be admitted to their friendship.—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

Scripture Reading—Luke 10:25—11:23

MILK-FED LION CUBS UNCHANGED

Walter Beckworth was a famous lion trainer. One time he tried to change the nature of some lion cubs by feeding them only milk. When the young lions were ten months old, something happened which caused him to know that he could not change their nature by raising them on milk. "Come quickly, Walter," called his wife. Answering her call of distress, he saw a burro feeding on the grass nearby. One of the milk-fed young lions was slinking towards it. Suddenly the lion pounced on the burro's shoulder, hung on with one paw and reached for the animal's nose with the other paw. Jerking the head of the burro back, the lion threw it to the ground and with bared teeth plunged for the helpless burro's jugular vein. It was the lion's nature to do as he did.

We are born with sinful natures: "Behold I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me" (Psalm 51:5); "The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies" (Psalm 58:3).

Only the Saviour can change our sinful natures and give us a new nature: "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

MONDAY, AUGUST 22

Scripture Reading—Luke 11:24-54

OPENED FROM THE INSIDE

Holman Hunt painted the picture "Christ the Light of the World." It portrays Christ in a garden at midnight, holding a lantern in his left hand. With His right hand He is knocking at a massive door with heavy panels.

When the painting was unveiled, several critics were present. They looked with admiration at the great production. One critic detected what he thought was lacking, namely, a knob on the door. He said, "You haven't finished your work." "It is finished," said the artist. "But there is no knob on the door," protested the critic. "Ah!" said the artist, "that is the door to the human heart. It can be opened only from the inside!"

Augustine prayed, "Lord, save me from all my sins, but not yet." There was no answer. Later he prayed, "Lord, save me from my sins, except one." Still there was no answer. Finally he prayed, "Lord, save me from all my sins, and save me now!" God answered instantly!

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23

Scripture Reading—Luke 12

THE PROBLEM OF GENESIS

"I wish to discuss with you some of the problems I am having with the Book of Genesis. I do not believe the first three chapters of the book," said a young man to a minister who had spoken to a group of students in an eastern college. The minister asked him to attend a meeting which he was holding in the city, agreeing to spend some time with him after any service. One evening the minister gave an invitation to the unsaved to receive Christ as their personal Saviour. The doubting young man went into the inquiry room. After a searching talk with him, the minister asked, "Now tell me what your problems about the Book of Genesis are. I want to help you if I can." The young man replied, "I have no problems with Genesis now. They are all gone!"

In obeying Christ's command to repent and believe the gospel, he had received salvation.

Salvation safeguards the mind and makes the heart receptive to all of God's Word.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24

Scripture Reading—Luke 13, 14

THE HEAVENS MUST DO THIS, OR ELSE

How powerless are self-effort, self-mortification, and self-imposed tortures to justify sinful man before God! Martin Luther fasted, scourged himself and underwent all manner of privations. He became emaciated in body and broken in health. Then the light broke upon his darkened soul. He exclaimed, "He that made the heavens must do this, or it will remain forever undone." Coming to the end of all self-effort, and so-called "works of righteousness," God revealed to him the glorious truths: "The just shall live by his faith" (Habakkuk 2:4).

But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness" (Romans 4:5).

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

Scripture Reading—Luke 15, 16

BREAD.ENOUGH AND TO SPARE

Many die of spiritual hunger when Jesus, "the bread of life," may be had for the asking. During the Revolutionary War, a half-starved Indian found his way into a Western settlement. "Bread! Bread!" he piteously said. "Give me bread! I am starving!" As an officer questioned him, the Indian drew from his pocket a dirty, worn wallet in which the officer found a regular discharge from the Federal army, signed by General Washington. That discharge, which the Indian thought was worthless, entitled him to ample provision which he immediately received.

How like that Indian are millions of starving souls!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

Scripture Reading—Luke 17

WOULD HE ROB ME OF MY ENDEAVORS?

A humble Moravian workman asked John Wesley before his conversion the searching question, "Do you hope to be saved?" "Yes, I do," replied Wesley. "On what ground do you hope for salvation?" asked the Moravian. "Because of my endeavors to serve God," said Wesley. The Moravian made no reply. He only shook his head and walked silently away. Wesley, in speaking of the incident later said, "I thought him very uncharitable, saying in my heart, 'Would he rob me of my endeavors?' " Later, Wesley saw the light—that salvation is solely of grace, "not by works of righteousness which we have done," or can do. He saw what his brother, Charles, saw.

Could my tears forever flow,
Could my zeal no languor know,
These for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone:
In my hand no price I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

Scripture Reading—Luke 18:1-17

PSYCHIATRIST AND ALCOHOLIC SAVED

A humanly hopeless alcoholic was placed under the care of a psychiatrist. He received little help. During the Billy Graham meetings in London, the alcoholic was induced to attend. He listened in wonderment to the gospel messages. "Possibly there is some hope for me," he thought. One night, when the invitation was given, he, with several others, went forward. Christ saved him. A new power came into his life. That night, before going to sleep, he reached for the nearby bottle of liquor. Something, or rather, *Someone,* held back his hand. Getting out of bed, he took the bottle of liquor and emptied it down the drain. When he awakened in the morning, through force of habit, he reached for the usual morning "bracer." It was not there. There was no feeling of disappointment, however. He phoned the psychiatrist and said, "You have lost a patient! Christ has saved me from drink. I am now a new man!" The psychiatrist said, "That sounds fine! Maybe I can find help where you found it!" He began to attend the meetings, and he, too, accepted Christ as his Saviour. Some days thereafter, in a lobby of a fashionable London hotel, the psychiatrist and the former alcoholic testified along with some fifty others, of the saving power of Christ.

May we remember that Jesus said, "Ye must be born again."

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

NO ROOM FOR BROAD-MINDEDNESS

The preacher is sometimes accused of being narrow-minded because he insists upon the Christian forsaking all to follow Christ. But all of life is narrow and success is to be found only by passing through the narrow gate and down the straight way. There is no room for broad-mindedness in the chemical laboratory. Water is composed of two parts hydrogen and one part oxygen. The slightest deviation from that formula is forbidden. There is no room for broad-mindedness in music. There can be only eight notes in an octave. The skilled director will not permit the first violin to play even so much as one-half of a note off the written note, chord, and key. There is no room for broad-mindedness in the mathematics classroom. Neither geometry, calculus, nor trigonometry allows any variation from exact accuracy. The solution of the problem is either right or it is wrong. There is no room for broad-mindedness in the garage. The mechanic there says that the piston rings must fit the cylinder walls within one-thousandth part of an inch. How, then, shall we expect that broad-mindedness shall rule in the realm of religion and morals?

WHERE THE STORM

(Continued from Page 7)

the Lord in the midst of raging waves and the strong winds of the storm. We can be assured that in God's own time and way, He will bring us to a better haven He has prepared for us. Remember: none lives so pleasantly as he who lives by faith.

Irving D. Larson

I'M A NICE STRANGER!

I never complain. I never create a scene. When I go to church, I never offer an objection if the usher leads me down the long aisle to the front seat, while all the members of the church crowd the back seats and fix their curious gaze on my embarrassed march. No, I just take my seat. I'm a nice visitor. I never growl aloud when I have to push by and walk over the feet of selfish church members who hog the aisle seats and would not move out of their favorite places if it meant the salvation of a soul. Oh no, I just sit down meekly. I'm the ideal church stranger. I never reprimand young people who sit behind me chewing gum, whispering and giggling. Oh no, I'm too polite for that.

At the close of the services as I walk toward the door, I never make a scene if nobody speaks to me or shakes my hand. No, they gather in little cliques and don't bother me. I'm the nice visitor to the church.

And I'll tell you what else I am—I'm the stranger who never comes back. That's my little revenge for not being welcomed. I know when I'm not wanted. I can sense when the church members are cliquish and unfriendly. I can tell when they lack interest in the spiritual welfare of the visitors. I, of course, am too cultured and too nice, to say anything. I just go to some other more friendly, more hospitable, and more spiritual church—or don't go to church at all. I wouldn't make a complaint—I'm a nice visitor. I just don't go back. And there are millions of us who could be reached by a little hospitality and warmth. Are you just a nice complacent church member, or are you genuinely concerned about the spiritual condition of a stranger and visitor? Remember Paul's admonition: *"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers."*

—Christian Digest

NOTICE

The Third Union Youth Fellowship of the Eastern Conference will be having their youth revival at Folkstone Free Will Baptist Church near Holly Ridge, August 18, 19, 20, at 8 p.m.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Melinda Lanier

ESCAPE TO REALITY

(Continued from Page 6)

a start in spite of timidity and fear.

Most will prefer the anonymity and safety found behind a mask. Many will still choose the comfort of nostalgia. It is a nice place to visit, but I wouldn't want to live there. Others will continue to shortcut or leapfrog the painful present to find comfort in future hope. That is good to have, but we don't live there either. Not yet.

For the rest of us, there is only today. The process of living this day is taking us somewhere. There *is* a destination. On earth our destination, I believe, is to become real persons. If we cannot reach that point and go on from there without pretense, how can God trust us with His Heaven?

—Stan Mooneyham

Used by permission from *World Vision*, February 1982.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

Society's concern with power and control has crept into the church—and we have been distracted from our primary task of serving people. Our energies are concentrated on being recognized, gaining control. This becomes particularly damaging when you consider our size. Since we are small—about 19,000 active members—it is easy to know "almost everything" about those holding positions in our ranks. And if we do not know a particular person, we can pick up the phone and call someone we do know who is acquainted with that individual. Idiosyncrasies—some even fabricated—are being used to tear down denominational programs, personalities, and structures. God forbid!

A good test of whether or not you are majoring in minors is to take a good long look at what is frustrating you. Does it deal with "institutional" questions or being of service to individual people? Now, realize that nothing can really hinder the latter. If, on the other hand, it deals with institutional matters, "give input where you are invited and defer to the decision makers."

In closing, remember, "if you don't see eye to eye with others, it's not always because of stiff necks!" But sometimes . . . .

CRAGMONT SUPERBALL GOLF TOURNAMENT

August 26, 1983

Again this year there will be a Cragmont Golf Tournament. The purpose for this tournament is to raise funds for the payment on the main building. However we want you to have some fun and fellowship in the process. In order for this tournament to be successful we need you whether you play golf or not.

Again this year the tournament will be superball style. Four people will form a team and each team will compete for First Place.

This year we expect to have over 100 golfers which means that you must get your registration in early. We plan to have two tee times, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. You need to indicate on the form which tee time you desire. If you choose the afternoon tee time you may come early and enjoy the pool while you wait.

We also would like you to know that there is a meal catered by Bill's of Wilson. Don't miss this part. We need you for our tournament. Sign up now.

Name_____

Address _____

Phone _____

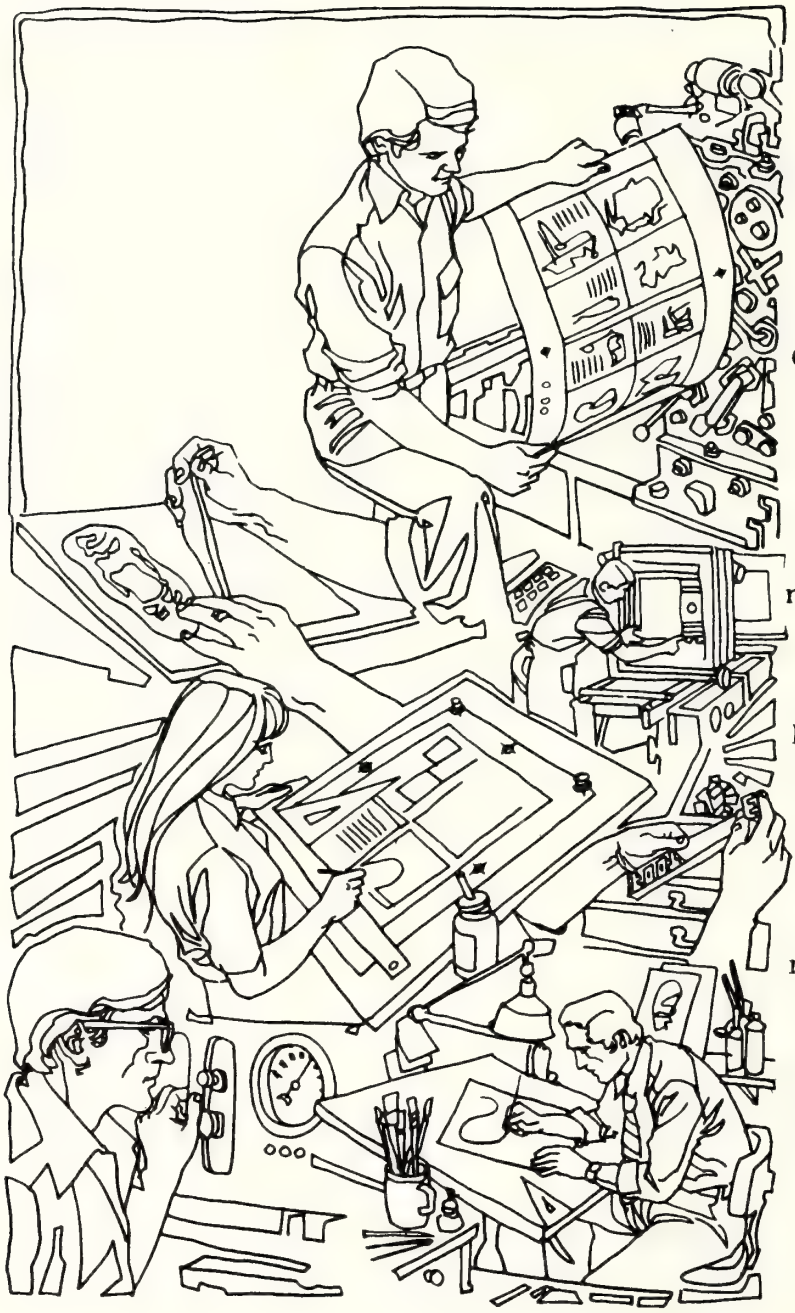
Tee Time: Morning Afternoon

Please indicate your playing range below

100-over ☐	89-85 ☐	74-under ☐
99-95 ☐	84-80 ☐	I am a non-player ☐
94-90 ☐	79-75 ☐	How many in your party will be present for the evening meal? _____

To register yourself please send this form and $25 to Rick Watson, Route 1, Box 522, Wilson, North Carolina 27893; phone, 237-8472.

This tournament will be played at Happy Valley Country Club in Wilson, North Carolina, on August 26, 1983.



Why Wait?

Keeping up with what is happening among Original Free Will Baptists is not always an easy task, but it is one we enjoy. With each and every printing of *The Free Will Baptist,* we try to provide information about meetings; details of work being accomplished by denominational enterprises, institutions, and auxiliaries; as well as inspirational materials which will challenge you to greater service. Every Free Will Baptist family should be receiving *The Free Will Baptist.* Why don't you subscribe today? Fill out the form below and mail it to the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513-0158.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1983,
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

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The Free Will Baptist

State Convention '83 Drawing Near

Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church
Clayton, North Carolina

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Janie Sowers

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Volume 98 Number 32

August 24, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Guest Editorial

This Year's Convention: What's Going to Happen?

by Gary M. Bailey

"What's going to happen at the State Convention this year?" Over the past few months I have been asked this question many times. Repeatedly I have attempted to explain that my power as a prophet is quite limited.

The interest shown in the 1983 session of the State Convention thus far may indicate a large turnout. For the second time we will open on Tuesday night with an Evangelism Conference. Our Home Missions and Church Extension Department is in charge of the Evangelism Conference. All Free Will Baptists should attend this part of the Convention. Pastors are encouraged to get their people there.

The seventy-first session of the State Convention will officially convene on Wednesday morning, September 14, at 9:30. Denominational enterprises and institutions will report their achievements. These enterprises and institutions will seek guidance and support of our people for the coming year(s). These reports are absolutely necessary for the work of our Church. It is occasionally expressed that the reports are merely dead time in between the "real" business. Not so! When our Convention established its boards, enterprises and institutions it did so with a genuine desire to serve God. The annual reports are to keep us informed, challenged and involved in these varied ministries.

But what's going to happen at the State Convention this year? Perhaps the interest is stemmed from the anticipation of controversy. Satan would have a glorious time if we become embroiled in heated controversy. The news media, noticably absent in recent years, would relish in headlines of division among church men and women.

Occasionally I see two people doing what they sincerely believe is God's will. Often the work they do directly conflicts. An example is when one thinks he should take some church members and split the church, while the other thinks everyone should unite in the church. Sometimes both declare that they are doing "God's will." I become puzzled! Why would God give conflicting orders to two of His children! Honestly, I do not think He does. God is given "credit" for the actions of people occasionally in order to justify their course of action. Let us be careful this year not to claim to know God's will until we have spent much time in the prayer closet. Only after sincere and earnest prayer—and only after divine direction—should we make statements and decisions that would involve our Church's future service to God.

What's going to happen? I cannot predict. I can pray. Here is a list of things for which I pray: (1) That Free Will Baptists, good Christian people from all over the state, will attend. (2) That all delegates and members will come with open minds and hearts. (3) That every action taken by our Convention, its delegates and its members will show forth the love of Jesus Christ. (4) That if we must disagree, we do so as Christians, working out our differences for God's glory.

Will you actively pray with me for these things?

State Convention '83

Time Draws Near

The Seventy-first Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, along with the Night of Evangelism and the Mission Rally, will be held at Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, 307 Everett Avenue, Clayton, North Carolina, September 13-15.

Before those attending the Convention ever assemble to consider business matters, the Night of Evangelism service will be conducted. This service will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 13. Mr. Mott Bachelor will be leading the Evangelism Choir, a group of singers assembled for the Convention composed of Free Will Baptists from across the state of North Carolina. The singing which will be featured that night will help prepare those present for the sermon to be brought by Dr. Robert Shank. Mr. Shank will be addressing the subject: "Life in the Son." The emphasis of his sermon will be the need for the evangelization of inactive church members.

Registration for the Convention will begin at 8:30 on Wednesday morning and the Convention will begin at 9:30. (The schedule for the Convention can be found on Page 4 of this issue.)

During the course of the session, messages will be delivered by Dr. Shank and Dr. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College.

The 1983 Mission Rally will begin at 7:30 Wednesday evening, with the Department of Home Missions and Church Extension in charge. The congregational singing for the Rally will be directed by the Rev. Dean Kennedy, pastor of Haymount Church; and a choir composed of singers from different home mission points will bring special selections. During the evening there will be testimonies from home missionaries. The Rev. Bob Harber, missionary to the H'mong people in Santa Ana, California, will introduce several special guests: the Rev. Wa Lo Le, who will bring greetings from the H'mong refugees, and the Rev. Mouachou Mouanoutoua, the speaker for the evening. The Foreign Missions Department will also have a part on the evening's program. A special offering will be taken for the mission work of the State Convention that night. Funds not earmarked for either the foreign missions or home missions work will be divided between the two departments.

Remember, each church should send its pastor and his wife as well as its delegates. Every church representing may send a delegate for every 100 members or fraction thereof. It is important that delegates attend the entire Convention, that they be in place. They should not attend on Wednesday and leave, since the majority of business is transacted on Thursday; and information needed to make wise decisions on Thursday is often given on Wednesday.

When delegates and ministers arrive, they will receive a booklet of reports. This booklet will help to save time, giving those in attendance an opportunity to see and hear what the speakers are saying instead of trying to hear over those passing out materials.

An information desk will be set up outside the Convention site to assist anyone with any questions on locations as well as Convention facilities.

The importance of this session cannot be over emphasized. To miss this Convention is to miss one of your best opportunities to help your Church advance for the cause of Christ.

State Convention '83

SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church

Clayton, North Carolina

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1983

MORNING SESSION

8:30—Registration of Ministers and Delegates
9:30—Convention Called to Order, the Rev. Scott Sowers
9:35—Congregational Singing, Mr. Jack Bircher, Music Director
—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Bass Mitchell
9:40—Welcome, Dr. Billy Yawn
—Response, Mr. Oscar Webster
—Partial Report of the Credentials Committee
9:55—President's Remarks, the Rev. Gary Bailey
—Appointment of Committees
—Executive Committee Report
—Miscellaneous Report

REPORTS

10:10—Home Missions, the Rev. Charles Crisp
10:20—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Mr. R. Clifford Gray
10:30—Superannuation, the Rev. Don Fader
10:50—Retirement Homes, the Rev. Walter Sutton
11:00—Congregational Singing
—Offering for the Convention
—Introductory Message, Dr. Robert Shank
11:45—Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15—Registration
1:30—Congregational Singing
—Recognition of Fraternal Delegates
1:40—Foreign Missions, the Rev. Harold Jones
1:55—Mount Olive College, Dr. Burkette Raper
2:25—Children's Home, the Rev. Bobby Taylor
—Adjourn for the Day

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1983

MORNING SESSION

9:00—Final Registration
9:30—Congregational Singing
—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Calvin Heath
9:40—Cragmont, the Rev. John Williams
9:50—Church Finance Association, the Rev. Walter Reynolds
10:00—Reports of Other Convention Boards, Committees, Commissions, and Auxiliaries
10:50—Obituary Committee
11:00—Congregational Singing
—Offering for the Convention
—Message, Dr. Burkette Raper
11:45—Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:30—Congregational Singing and Prayer
—Final Report of Credentials Committee
1:35—Treasurer's Report, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood
—Report of the Resolutions Committee
—Report of the Nominating Committee
—Adjournment and Benediction

CONVENTION PERSONALITIES

Dr. Robert Shank

Robert Shank is known internationally among Bible scholars for his significant books in the field of biblical theology, used in seminaries and colleges of many denominations. His books *Life in the Son* (1960) and *Elect in the Son* (1970), regarded by many as classics, have enjoyed a distribution of nearly a hundred thousand copies. Dr. William Adams of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, who wrote introductions for both books, wrote in a brief foreword (1971), "It is my considered judgment that Robert Shank's two books *Life in the Son* and *Elect in the Son* will stand against any attempt to refute them from the Scriptures, and that the passing of time can only prove them to be finally definitive on the long-debated theological questions of election and perseverance."

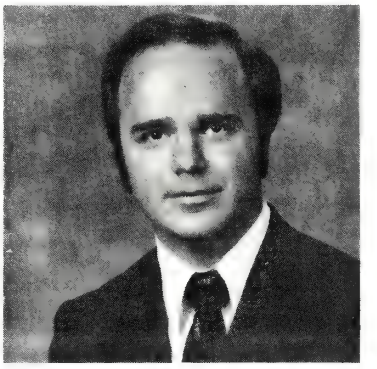
In recognition of the importance of his contributions to theology, in 1975 Pepperdine University conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters.

Dr. Shank was twenty-two years a Southern Baptist pastor, and taught fourteen years at Faith Bible Academy, Camdenton, Missouri, serving seven years as president. Forty years a minister of the gospel among Southern Baptists, Christian Churches, and Churches of Christ, Dr. Shank now devotes his time to his writing and lectureships and preaching missions. His book *Until: The Coming of Messiah and His Kingdom* (1982) has attracted favorable attention of Bible scholars in Israel as well as here in the States.

In June of this year, Dr. Shank was one of a group of eighteen evangelical Bible scholars and religious leaders in the United States who, by invitation of the Israel Universities Study Group in Jerusalem, were participants in eight days of conference with Bible scholars, religious leaders, and leaders in government and public life in Israel.

Dr. Burkette Raper

Dr. Burkette Raper is President of Mount Olive College.



The Rev. Gary Bailey

The Rev. Gary Bailey is President of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and is pastor of Stoney Creek Church near Goldsboro.

CONVENTION AREA MOTELS

Clayton—The Johnstonian Motel, Highway 70

Garner—Best Western, Highway 70

Smithfield—Holiday Inn, Highway 70
Days Inn, Highway 70-A
Royal Inn, Highway 70-A
Econo Lodge, Highway 70-A

CONVENTION AREA RESTAURANTS

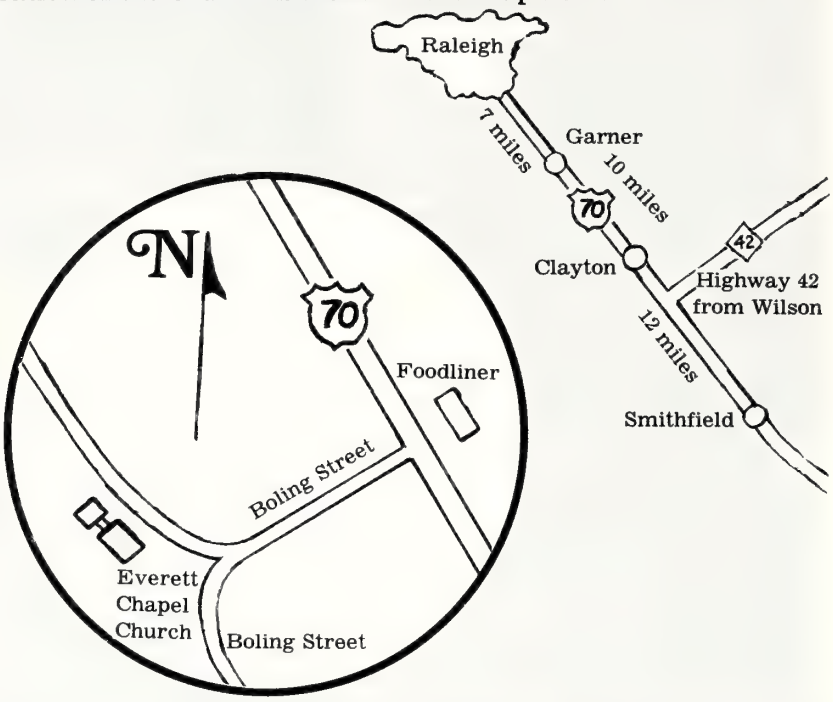
Clayton—Hardee's
Smithfield BBQ
Dairy Queen
Wendy's
Pizza Hut

Garner—Pancake House
McDonald's
Hardee's
Hickory House

Smithfield—Western Steer
Log Cabin
Bojangles
Park House Restaurant
Bonanza
Stuckey's

EVERETT CHAPEL CHURCH MAP

The 1983 session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will be held at Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Clayton, North Carolina. The location of the church is found on the map below.



NEWS AND NOTES

ASPEN GROVE HONORS SENIOR CITIZENS

On July 17, Aspen Grove Church honored its senior citizens. Each of the sixty senior citizens attending was presented a beautiful rose furnished by Alice and Selby Langley. Following the Sunday school and worship service a delicious lunch was enjoyed which was prepared by younger members of the church. A beautiful cake was prepared and presented in honor of them by Faith Langley.

A song service was enjoyed after lunch by the people in the church.

Aspen Grove Church people are very thankful for the senior citizens and for what they have contributed to the church, individuals, and the community. The pastor would like to thank those on the planning committee and all those involved in making this a memorable day for those attending.

LL of Central Conference to Meet

The Layman's League of the Central Conference will hold its next quarterly meeting at the Tarboro Church on September 12, 1983, at 7:30 p.m. This will be a supper meeting. Please support this auxiliary by attending.

Western District Youth to Meet

The Western District Youth Rally will be held on August 27, 1983, at Calvary Church near Wilson. The time of the meeting is 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Deacon Ordination Service Held at Robert's Grove Church

On Sunday night, July 10, 1983, a deacon ordination service was held at Robert's Grove Church, Route 1, Dunn, North Carolina. The songs entitled, "Footsteps of Jesus," "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms," and a choral worship, "Oh! Master Walk with Me," were very fitting for the service. The pastor, the Rev. Jerry Allen, used 1 Timothy 3:8-13 as his scriptural background as he delivered the ordination charge to Mr. L. E. McLamb. He pointed out the honor and trust the church had in him when they voted him in as a member of the deacon board. He also told him of his duties and responsibilities. He reminded Mrs. Mary Sue McLamb, of her duties as a deacon's wife.

All of the deacons were then called to the altar. They knelt down and placed their hands on Mr. McLamb and prayed as the Honeycutt Trio sang the song entitled, "To Be Used of God." After which the pastor prayed the prayer of dedication.

It was a very impressive service and after the benediction, everyone shook hands with Mr. and Mrs. McLamb and wished God's richest blessings on them.

(Continued on Page 27)

IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

The fall semester will begin August 29, but students still have time to enroll.

LAST CALL FOR CALL SEMESTER

The fall semester at Mount Olive College will begin Sunday, August 28, when resident halls open for new students. Orientation sessions will be held on August 29, registration will be August 30, and classes will begin August 31.

A good enrollment is expected, but limited space is still available for qualified students. Financial aid is also available.

Students who have not yet finalized their plans for the 1983-84 academic year are encouraged to visit, write, or call the Admissions Office (phone 919/658-2502).

GIFTS TO MOC SET NEW RECORD

Gifts to Mount Olive College for the fiscal year ended June 30 reached an all-time high of $866,872.

Annual gift support has increased 100% since 1977 when the Free Will Baptist State Convention requested the Board of Trustees "to work aggressively toward making Mount Olive College a four-year institution." Gifts during the 1977-78 fiscal year totalled $428,648.

Sources of voluntary gift support during 1982-83 included:

Free Will Baptists	$477,825
Individual Friends	188,596
Foundations	122,520
Business and Industry	77,931
Total	$866,872

PLANNING SESSIONS FOR 1983 COLLEGE DINNERS

For the twenty-first consecutive year, Mount Olive College is holding a series of church dinners for the purpose of giving every Free Will Baptist family an opportunity to invest in the work of the College.

Contributions at the 1983 dinners are vital to the development of Mount Olive into a four-year college. Dinner gifts go into the operating budget which includes scholarships, library development, educational equipment and the professional preparation of the faculty for teaching at the senior college level.

Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, who is serving as director for the dinners again this year, has announced the following planning sessions:

Craven County, Thursday, August 25, 8 p.m., Saint Mary's Church, New Bern

Duplin County, Monday, August 29, 7:30 p.m., Cabin Church near Beulaville

Wayne County, Tuesday, August 30, 7:30 p.m., First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro

Wilson County, Thursday, September 1, 8 p.m., Daniels Chapel Church near Wilson

Carteret County, Friday, September 2, 7:30 p.m., Crab Point Church near Morehead City

Pamlico County, Sunday, September 4, 2 p.m., Mount Zion Church, Vandemere

Johnston-Wake Counties, Tuesday, September 6, 7:30 p.m., First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield

Washington, Martin, Tyrrell, Pasquotank and Chowan Counties, Thursday, September 8, 7:30 p.m., Mount Tabor Church near Creswell

Pitt County, Monday, September 12, 7:30 p.m., Reedy Branch Church near Winterville

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties, Monday, September 19, 7:30 p.m., Oak Grove Church near Newton Grove

The pastor and lay representatives from each church are encouraged to attend the planning session for their county or area. At these meetings decisions will be made on the time and place for the dinners and literature will be distributed.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Eldon L. Brock of Kinston wishes to announce that he is now available for full-time or part-time pastoral work. He is a member in good standing of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. He may be reached by writing to the Rev. Eldon L. Brock, 1315 Holman Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; telephone 523-7155 (days), 527-6985 (nights and Sundays).

JOURNAL NOTES

Jackie Barnard

I have been trying to write this article for some time now. It seems I only get started when I have to lay it aside. Being a full-time wife, mother, and teacher doesn't give me much time to myself. I must admit that when I have had the time the words have not come easily. I suppose I could excuse myself by saying, with honesty, that my husband is the writer in the family. However, I feel I must try to satisfy the several requests wanting to hear of our life here from the woman's viewpoint.

My main responsibilities are centered in caring for my family. This includes cooking, laundry, cleaning, mending, teaching (K-5 to Jeff), correspondence, shopping, and anything else that may fall upon my shoulders. Now, I ask you ladies, isn't being a wife and mother a full-time job?

Adjustments to a new country, new people, and new lifestyle have been humorous at times. Of course, most things that seem funny now were not in the least bit so when they took place. Most of the following events come from my diary. When I read back over the past year it is hard to believe some of the things we have gone through. Surely, the Lord has been our guide.

Just two days after our arrival on Palawan, Jeffrey and I went to the market. The market here is a huge wide-open sheltered area packed full of everything and everyone. In the Tagalog language the word for market is "palengke." We were barely under the edge of the shelter when Jeffrey stopped dead still and in a loud excited voice exclaimed, "Momma, I never saw a live rooster in a store before!" You should have seen the look on his face. Today he thinks nothing of such things. Roosters are everywhere. The Philippines are famous the world over for their fabulous "fighting cocks."

Our first Easter served to remind us of the terrible grip Satan has on the people here through superstition and the Roman Church. Flagellantes, men who beat their lacerated backs with whips, moved through the main street to do penance for their sins. Again, Jeffrey was on hand with a thousand questions and nearly as many exclamations. Two questions stood out. "Are they bad people, Mommy?" "Are they going to Hell?"

Sunday evening, April 18, 1982, we were at church. Suddenly, the air was filled with insects. Flying termites were swarming near the sanctuary lights. They got into everything, especially into my hair. How horrible! Linda was very helpful, saying that this only happens once a year.

That may be true, but other insects are always present. One strange type of bug sticks to everything. They can really make a mess. I have even found cockroaches in the bread from the local bakery. Yuk!

I'll never forget the night of June 6. All of the brethren met for a special service at the Bunkag Mission. During the service it rained very hard. Afterwards, we had to cross a long muddy pathway to reach the truck. I was wearing sandals which are not very convenient for walking through six to eight inches of gooey mud. It made for slow going. One step at a time, wiggling your foot as you pulled it out of the mud, was all I could do. Trying to stay upright made the going much slower.

As patience turned to irritation I realized how far behind everyone I was. Shanna and Kim were already through. Charles, carrying Jeffrey, and the others were almost out. I wasn't even halfway. I hastily jerked my right foot loose and landed, not very gracefully, on my left side right in the mud. I wasn't hurt, but my pride was badly bruised. Nearly all had been watching and were now besides themselves with laughter. I believe it was Fred who wished he had taken along a movie camera.

Tragedy struck as soon as the Bakers left us. X-rays showed that Shanna and Jeff were suffering from Primary Complex. This is the early stage of TB. We were shocked. We praise the Lord that through early detection and proper medication, coupled with liberal doses of prayer, they are now completely healed. Recent x-rays showed no trace of the disease.

Leaving the house one Wednesday for Prayer Meeting I heard a kitten. At least I thought I heard one. The sound came from beneath our gasul tank near the back door. Charles and Jeff were already out the gate and in the truck. (Shanna was away at school.) I told Charles to come rescue the poor kitty. Tonka, the mission's dog, was trying to dig it out. She usually tried to kill any animal that came into the yard.

Suddenly, it hit me. A kitten could not possibly have gotten under there. It had to be a snake! I got into the truck, FAST! Charles went to the tank, stick in hand, to help Tonka. As he slowly leaned the tank over the snake darted out. A cobra, and to me it was a big

one. Tonka pounced on it immediately. She shook it vigorously and slung it right past Charles's leg under the house. The snake tried to escape, but Tonka had it in her mouth in no time. Not, however, before the snake had bitten her right on the top of her head. Finally, after many episodes of shaking and slinging, the snake died.

Not long after this Charles had to return home during a Sunday morning service. He chased a green snake on to one of the fence posts. He then cut it in two. The head part ran off. Charles felt sure he had killed it. When we came home for lunch there it was wrapped around the leg of one of our dining chairs. It had crawled in through a hole in the floor. Needless to say, I am not fond of these types of adventures.

In September Shanna began to experience many physical problems. One such illness resulted in her being hospitalized. One of us had to fly to Manila to see about her. I was chosen. Charles had other pressing responsibilities here. I was afraid. Manila is a big city and I'm a small town girl. Charles was not very happy with the whole idea. The Lord took care of me and Shanna improved.

At this very moment we are without running water, cooking gasul, and electricity. I am leaving for Manila again with Shanna and Jeff to set up house for us. We are to begin language school there, soon. The kids are excited. I am tense. Charles will not join us for at least a month. He must stay behind to get the Bakers settled in and to keep things going.

Looking back has reminded me of those who have grown in the Lord and of those who have just been born into God's family. Watching all this take place has been very rewarding. However, all things take time. It is reassuring to know that a year for us is but a minute with the Lord. We are learning to patiently endure. The few episodes I have shared with you pale when compared to the trials of many other missionaries. God has given me so much to be thankful for.

As you pray for us I ask you to remember this, we are sacificing nothing for God. He has sacrificed His own Son for us. What little I have I give willingly to Jesus. I've sacrificed nothing. He has given Himself!

I must take this opportunity to thank you for your support. We have received cards, letters, and packages from many of you. We need and appreciate this kind of support. Only experience can ever cause you to know the joy of receiving a cheerful letter from home. You have helped me to make it through this first year.

I won't say that the next year will be an easy one. I am counting on you to help me make it. Your prayers and correspondence are needed. I pray God's richest blessings to fall upon you. He has blessed me through you!

Yours in His Love,
Jackie Barnard
Missionary to the Philippines

CENTRAL DISTRICT CONVENTION

Dear Auxiliary Women of the Central District:

The fall convention time is almost here. "Redemption Draweth Nigh" (Romans 13:11) is our theme for the convention which will meet on Saturday, September 24, 1983, at Marlboro Church, located on Highway 264 east, 1 mile from Farmville. Registration fee is $10.

You have responded wonderfully to all the projects for last year; and we look forward to the completion of a better year in 1983-84. Please **mail in advance** all contributions **except** the two special offerings we ask you to bring to the convention to: Mrs. Martha Pittman, Route 1, Box 24, Stantonsburg, NC 27883.

MISSIONS—Each auxiliary is requested to bring $25 to our convention to be divided as follows: $20 for our state missions projects ($3,500 for Foreign Missions, and $2,500 for Home Missions) and $5 for Central Conference Missions. Please remember to pray for our missionary families.

CRAGMONT—Bring your talents (money for the building fund) to the convention. This offering along with your missions offering will be brought to the altar as we have the roll call of auxiliaries. **Please earmark your checks.**

YOUTH—Our next Youth meeting will be held on Saturday, September 17, at 7:30 p.m. at Grimsley Church. Our State Youth Convention was a great success thanks to Mount Olive College. Our youth voted for a portable stage for College Hall for their next project.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE—We have our project—the dishwasher, which will be paid for in May. $20 is requested for this project.

CHILDREN'S HOME—For our cottages there we need towels and bedspreads.

RETIREMENT HOMES—Our state project is to bring $20 per year.

ANNA PHILLIPS FUND—Applications are available through Cleo Hinson. Please support this so we can help our youth continue their education.

STUDY COURSE—We have a study course on prayer planned; come and get further details at the convention.

We will have a Memorial Service to remember those of our auxiliaries who worked so hard and who now are with the Lord.

Please share this letter with your auxiliary members. We, the District Officers, look forward to seeing you at the convention.

Yours in Christ,
Mrs. Wallie Hargrove
Missions Chairman

Ministers and deacons gather around the Rev. Bob Harber for dedication prayer at commissioning service. Mr. Harber is missionary to the H'mong tribe of Laotian Refugees.

MISSION NEWS UPDATE

Faith Mission in Durham

The Rev. Harry Brown is mission pastor of this fast growing work. They report attendance in the sixties. They have begun construction on a building on Horton Road and will change the name to The Horton Road Free Will Baptist Mission. This work will be located in one of the fastest growing residential areas in Durham.

Faith Mission in Leland

The Rev. Roger Heath is mission pastor of this strong mission. They report attendance in the sixties. They are making plans to become a self-supporting church in October. Leland is a suburb of Wilmington and is made up mostly of a residential area. This work has the great potential of becoming a great church.

Wilmington, First

The Rev. David C. Hansley is pastor of this small but growing work. This work was an organized church which fell on difficult times and had dwindled to a very small group who could not carry on an active program. They asked the Home Missions board to take over the work and salvage it. Brother Hansley moved on the field in March of this year and has seen a steady growth in attendance and finances. The attendance is now in the thirties. This work is located in an area of tremendous potential.

Eastwood of Fayetteville

The Rev. W. S. Burns is pastoring this work in one of the largest and fastest growing metropolitan areas of Eastern North Carolina. Eastwood was an organized church which had split and dwindled to only one family. The Home Missions Department assumed responsibility of salvaging a work there. After one year they report an attendance in the thirties. They are making plans to start a day-care center and broaden their ministry.

Grifton

The Rev. James Sowers is pastor of this growing mission. This mission is our newest work and we are excited about it. It was started on October 24, 1982, in the former St. Jude Catholic Church building in the heart of Grifton. Grifton is a small residential town 9 miles south of Ayden. After ten months they report an attendance of 34. This is thirty people who were not attending church 10 months ago.

Heritage of Charlotte

Dr. Eugene Poston is pastoring this work. The Heritage Mission became the Heritage Free Will Baptist Church on July 16 of this year. Our congratulations to this fine group of people.

Haymount of Fayetteville

The Rev. Dean Kennedy is the pastor of this growing work in the heart of the metropolitan area of Fayetteville. This work was started by the Rev. Taylor Hill while he served as director of this department. By the time you read this it will be an organized church. The organizational service was August 21 at 3 p.m. It has been a self-supporting work from the beginning and has been a faithful supporter of denominational enterprises.

REPORT OF FIELD MISSIONARY

Following is a brief synopsis of the Rev. Bob Harber's recent itinerary; it is by no means a complete report. After studying his activities, one will know how better to pray for him.

July 9

We (David, Harlene and Bryant Sasser, from Union Grove Church, Fremont) arrived in California only to find the house rented for me not yet vacant.

July 10

The David Sasser family and I attended Sunday school and morning worship at the Santa Ana General Baptist Church. At 2 p.m. we attended worship at the H'mong Church, where I was introduced as Field Missionary to the H'mong people. Brother David gave his testimony and Doua Moua, a student at Mount Olive College, preached.

July 16

Wa Lo Lee and Mouachou Mouanoutoua, president and vice president of the H'mong Church, began leading me on a tour of the work. During the day, I visited the home of Cha Ee Lee, a lay-leader in Tulare, where there is good potential for a new church. I also visited in the home of Youa Teng Moua, the lay-leader in the Fresno H'mong Church.

July 17

I met with the Merced H'mong Church at 8:30 a.m., in the home of Nao Kee Moua, the church's leader. Dreams of their church and people were shared. Pastor Tong Mang Lee shared his desire of having a church building of their own, with Sunday school materials and trained teachers. A desire to attend Bible college was expressed by one young father. But spirits were not all good. Discouragement was expressed concerning the H'mong difficulty in finding work. Hearts were heavy because Lee Her, a youth leader, had recently drowned in the Merced River while on a fishing trip. After this meeting, I visited in several homes in Merced before preaching in the Fresno Church at 2 p.m. A church board meeting was held afterwards.

July 23

Accompanied by Yia Moua, national H'mong secretary, and Doua Moua, I attended Sunday school and morning worship at the Banning Church. I preached during the morning worship service; Brother Doua Moua interpreted; and several came forward for prayer. The church board met afterwards and plans were made for a two-week Bible class which I will teach in mid-August.

A H'mong worker

Prayer Items

Pray for the pastors, lay-leaders, and people of the H'mong Church.

Pray for our evangelism efforts. There are at least 26,000 H'mongs in Southern California; of this number, 75% are non-believers.

Pray for Bob Harber, your Field Missionary, that the Lord will give him wisdom, patience, and spiritual fortitude for this task.

NOTICE

Boards, Committees, Commissions, and Auxiliaries of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists were not assigned times on the Convention program for their reports. These reports will be given on Thursday morning between 10 and 10:50. Boards, Committees, Commissions, and Auxiliaries wishing to make a report to the Convention should contact the Rev. Scott Sowers during the Wednesday session. Reports will be scheduled on a first come first served basis.

Scott Sowers, *Secretary*
State Convention

Free Will Baptist Press & Bookstores

A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

—R. Clifford Gray

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. **must** and **will** move forward to spread the Word of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. is a very important and necessary entity within our denomination. According to the Press Charter, the Foundation was organized to "write, edit, print, publish and distribute any and all religious and educational literature for the Free Will Baptist denomination."

Through this purpose, the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation has grown from a simple resolution in 1873 to an "enterprise" of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists with assets totaling nearly $1,000,000. We operate six Bible and bookstores, which are located in Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Whiteville, and Kinston. We own a building in Ayden which houses not only the pressroom, Editorial Department and bookstore, but the Home Missions and Church Extension Department, the Board of Foreign Missions, the Church Finance Association, and also the State Headquarters of Original Free Will Baptists. This building has approximately 20,000 square feet. To God we should give all the glory and praise for this, for it is truly something that we as Free Will Baptists should be proud of.

During the past 110 years, the Press has experienced times of prosperity as well as times of decline. We have just gone through some very trying times financially, but the future looks very bright. In order for the Press to prosper we **must** have the support and prayers of **each** member of our denomination.

To share a few starting facts: The denomination has 382 ordained ministers, out of which 236 subscribe to *The Free Will Baptist* paper. Our church membership (according to latest figures) is 35,736, out of which 3,232 subscribe. This equates to approximately 38% of our ministers and 91% of our members **not receiving** our only denominational publication. Near the end of 1981, because of rising prices in paper and other supplies needed to produce *The Free Will Baptist,* we were faced with an increase in the subscription cost. The cost increased from $6.76 per year to $8.84 per year. Following this, fourteen churches which had been on the Every-Family Plan or the Bundle Plan discontinued their subscriptions. This resulted in a large loss to the Press.

In an attempt to examine the needs of the Sunday school as they pertain to literature, a Literature Study Committee, working under the auspices of the State Convention, sent questionnaires to each church. Now, approximately four months later, less than one-third of the churches have responded. We need to know what the needs are so that we can help meet these needs. However, if the churches and Sunday schools do not tell us, we will never know.

We have approximately 22,000 Sunday school members (according to latest figures). Each quarter we send out in excess of 76,000 quarterlies. This shows that other denominations account for a large percentage of our sales. If we lost their business, it would be quite difficult to survive.

As of the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 1983, we were showing 22 accounts owed to us from Free Will Baptist churches, Free Will Baptist ministers, and denominational enterprises which have been outstanding in excess of 90 days.

As I have mentioned previously, we must have the support of each member of our denomination. Without this support, the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation cannot serve the purpose for which it was organized. **And** know that we are always open to your ideas and suggestions as to how we can better serve you and your church.

Free Will Baptist Press & Bookstores

AN INTERVIEW WITH JANIE JONES SOWERS

Editor, Free Will Baptist Press

Janie, what does your job entail?

In reality, my job is a specialized ministry. I am called on to be a creative administrator. And thinking fast is a must for survival. I have to feel as comfortable with doing composition or working in the darkroom as I do behind my desk. Often, it is the variety of work I do that keeps me going. I am responsible for our literature program and the publication of *The Free Will Baptist.* I also handle a good portion of our commercial job printing.

Speaking of literature, how is our program doing?

Considering everything at present, it is holding its own. The prices of literature were not raised during the last year; and when we closed out last year's books on June 30, we had sustained a .2% decrease in sales. This concerned me greatly, so I started looking at what happened in Free Will Baptist Sunday schools last year. Well, that was not a pleasant thing to do, either; the denomination suffered a 4.2% decrease in enrollment. That has been the case ever since 1979—we have declined every year! I haven't studied back any farther than that. We do have a good volume, though, considering our constituency. And I am glad to say that the literature program is profitable.

At present, I am working with the Literature Committee of the State Convention. I feel good about our work and feel we are on the threshold of some good things. (See the partial report of this committee's work found on Page 24 of this issue.)

How About *The Free Will Baptist?* How is it doing?

Subscriptions to *The Free Will Baptist* are nowhere near what they should be. A lot of our people do not know this publication even exists—others know it exists but have never seen one. Occasionally I hear that some materials are not interesting—but then I get lots of mail in from others commenting on how good the same articles are.

For the most part, our articles come from our readers. Some feel I should not reprint articles, but when our people do not submit works I sometimes have little choice. But there are a lot of good works printed elsewhere, too. Then again, seasons and denominational happenings must be taken into consideration.

If a church or person wishes to submit something for publication, I want them to feel free to do so. It should be sent to my attention at the following address: Editor, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513. Articles need to be in my hands one week before a desired publication date. They also need to be typed, double-spaced. And if you want to use pictures with an article, they need to be black and white—and very clear.

It must be understood, too, that as editor, I have to make certain decisions. When comments are made, I try to listen to them, sift through what has been said; then I have to use my best judgment.

What do you see as being ahead for the literature program and *The Free Will Baptist?*

Both are very necessary ministries. I feel as though we have the personnel and expertise to go far. Format changes are presently being worked on for both of these areas. Those changes will make for more attractive and relevant publications—and both are needed! Thanks to the support of people from across the denomination, I feel we will make these changes smoothly. How can we help but do so? With the support and prayers of Christian people, in-house expertise, and God—we cannot fail!

How about the Press? Are things better?

Thanks be to God, yes. Our Executive Director, Cliff Gray, was a God-send. If given the opportunity, he will make the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation the place it needs to be. Mr. Gray is capable and conscientious. I know he can do what needs to be done.

As for the general morale of the workers, it's pretty good. All in all, the employees enjoy a good working relationship with each other—a lot of this is because we know it is a team effort.

Sometimes, though, it all becomes rather difficult. For example, many of our people are constantly talking about how bad things are at the Press. They are going to keep talking until we believe them—then there is going to be a mess. Many of our Free Will Baptist customers put our work down, even though customers from other denominations frequently

(Continued on Page 16)

Free Will Baptist Press & Bookstores

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation is located at 811 North Lee Street in Ayden, North Carolina. Mr. R. Clifford Gray serves as Executive Director, a post he assumed on May 2, 1983. The Ayden Bookstore, located within the Foundation building itself, is managed by Mrs. Ruby Tripp.

Mrs. Hattie Mae Everton serves as manager of the Wilson store. It is located at 1101 Downing Street (Five Points).

Located at 315 Middle Street, the New Bern store is managed by Mrs. Ellen Dixon.

Foundation Bible and Bookstore opened in 1982. This attractive store is located in the Whiteville Mini Mall. Mrs. Mary Gore is manager.

Smithfield store moved to its present location at 105 South Third Street in 1982. Mrs. Dola Dudley is manager of this store.

Located downtown, the Kinston store is at 123 North Queen Street; Mrs. Polly Eubanks is manager. Of particular interest at this store is "The Autograph Room," where singers from gospel groups visiting the area have left a record of their visit.

brag on us. Why, there are even those in our denomination who want some of our stores and ministries to fail. We try not to be discouraged—but sometimes people want you to be despondent. I guess they thrive on bad times and controversy.

Janie, you have been very candid. Before we close, is there anything you would like to add?

Like I said earlier, this is a very special ministry. You see, just like everyone else I make mistakes. But I stand on my own, with my own rights and credentials. This is not to say that I do not take directions—for I do, and I cherish good advice. But as a person, I must be true to myself; as an editor, I must be true to my job; and as a Christian, I must be true to God and my calling.

Sometimes, though, "we feel like fatted calves, standing alone before a flock of vultures, hungering to pick at our bones"—but denominational work is sometimes like that.

I know that God directed Mr. Gray this way; and I am confident that he can do the job. My hope is he will be allowed to.

My last request is for the prayers and support of Free Will Baptists throughout this state—not just for me—but for us all.

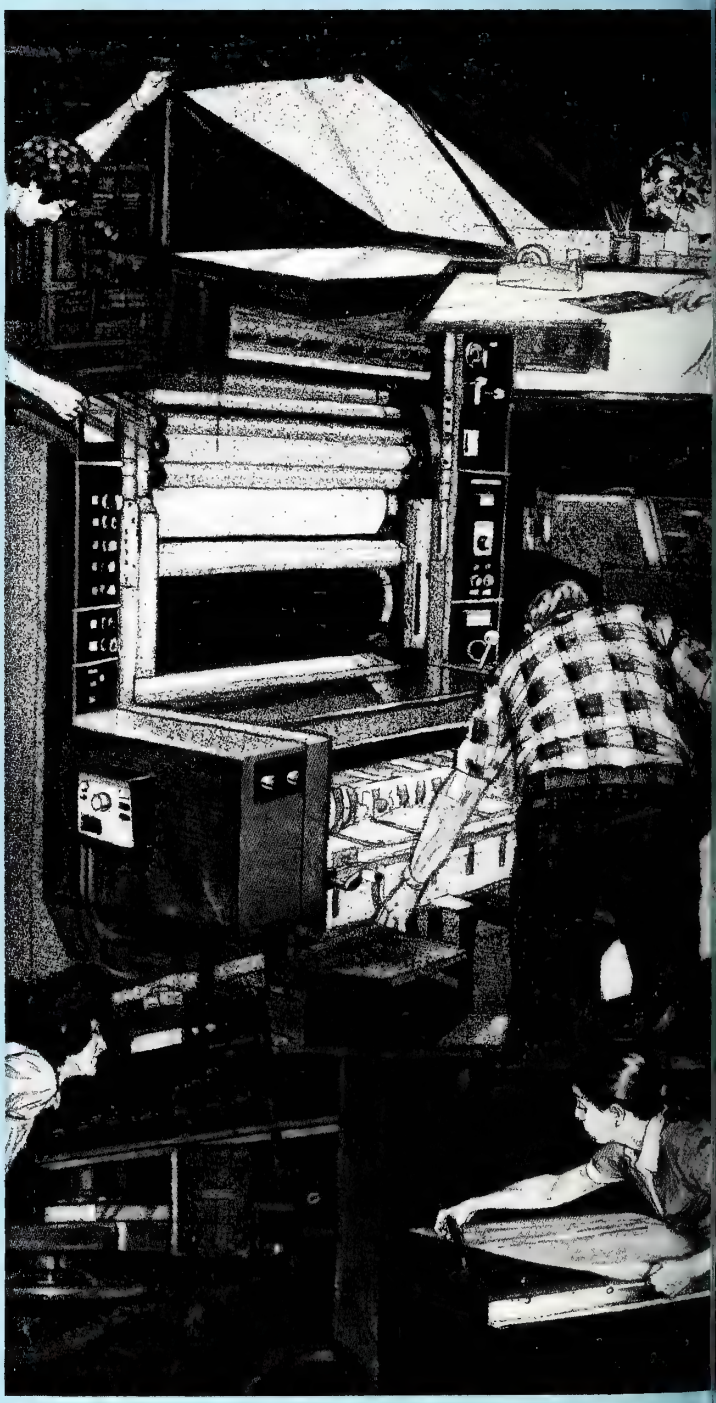
Free Will Baptist Press & Bookstores

THE EDITORIAL AND PRINTING DEPARTMENTS

The Editorial and Printing Departments work together very closely. The work on manuscripts for quarterlies and *The Free Will Baptist* begins in the Editorial Department. After receiving two proofreadings, the manuscripts are typeset. Our typesetters operate a Compugraphic 2750 and 7500 II. The 2750 is somewhat like a typewriter with a screen; the operator can edit her work as she types. This particular computer is hooked up to a printer. After a quarterly is set, the operator provides a printout of her work; this in turn receives two readings by the editorial staff. The typesetters then correct whatever errors are found and the disk on which the manuscript has been typed is then transferred to the 7500 II. This unit is the part of our system with the photocell. The operator transfers the manuscript, by means of the photocell unit, onto a photographic paper which can be cut and designed on pages. At this point, the final page proofing is done by the editors; corrections are made and the work is prepared for the darkroom. The work which is to be printed is now ready for photographing, after which the negative is stripped into position and the image is burned on a metal plate. The work now proceeds to the Printing Department.

The Press has two large format presses: a Harris one-color offset and a Solna two-color offset press. (Both are sheetfed.) The majority of our quarterly and *Baptist* work is done on them. The A.B. Dick presses (we have two) are used to print covers and to do commercial job printing. After a work has been printed, it is folded, the final step before going to the Bindery.

Verna McLawhorn, Sara Branch, and Warren Bezanson work in the Editorial Department with Janie Jones Sowers, editor. Jerry Goff serves as illustrator. Susan Emory operates the



Compugraphic 2750, and Teresa Guinn, the 7500 II. Composition is done by Marjorie Manning. Layne Burrus is our darkroom technician; he has his work cut out for him, as he prepares plates for Ronnie Jones, Solna pressman and Printing Department Manager; David Crisp, Harris pressman; and Ernest Spain who runs the A.B. Dick presses. Paul Taylor operates our folders and trims work after it has been completed by the Bindery Department

Janie Jones Sowers, Ronnie Jones

THE SHIPPING DEPARTMENT

I started working with the Free Will Baptist Press January, 1980, as Shipping Clerk. We ship through the Post Office and UPS every day. Each day the postage meter has to be read and a report filled out for the UPS. This job also consists of mailing *The Free Will Baptist* paper, statements, literature, bulletins, merchandise, and church supplies all over the United States.

I also work in the bindery with two other ladies, Leola Carawan and Nina Fussell. We put together and stitch *The Free Will Baptist* paper, literature, Bible school material, *Yearbook, Devotion* books, and any job work that comes through. We also bind some of the books such as the *Yearbook.* The three of us work well together and enjoy what we do.

Edna Earl McLawhorn

THE BOOKKEEPING DEPARTMENT

The Bookkeeping Department keeps records of all financial transactions: Accounts Receivables, Accounts Payables, Payroll, General Ledger, Financial Statements.

If any customer has a problem with his account with the Press, he should feel free to write or phone the Bookkeeping Department. We ask customers to try to pay their accounts upon receipt of their monthly statement, or at least send a partial payment each month. We are willing to help in any way possible.

Jack Mayo

PURCHASING AND COORDINATING

On September 2, 1970, I began working at the Free Will Baptist Press. I continued working in the bookstore until November of 1982, when I began my duties as Bookstore Coordinator and as a Purchasing Agent. No job is without problems and we have had our share. I have enjoyed my years here and feel it to be a challenge. We are proud of our six bookstores and I feel privileged to have a small part in carrying on the Lord's work in this manner.

Our bookstores are here to supply the needs of the churches and Christian people. Our customers are people from all denominations, and trying to buy books, supplies, etc. to take care of their needs takes the cooperation of each bookstore manager and myself working together. I am very fortunate in having the capable help of Beulah Stocks to assist me in my work.

I would like to thank you for your continued support and pray with you that we will continue to grow and prosper as a denomination and as Christians working together in unity and love to further the business of our Lord.

Dot Crouch

THE AYDEN STORE

As employees of the bookstore our duties are varied. We answer the telephone, take care of mail orders, help our store customers, take and get merchandise telephone orders ready for shipment. Also merchandise shipments are gotten ready for our branch stores on a weekly basis. Our bookstore takes care of a portion of this.

In answering the telephone, we find out the nature of the call and transfer the party to the department that they need. We take care of calls if they are for the purpose of placing a merchandise order, deal with inquiries about merchandise prices, or if we have certain items or books in stock.

As we cannot possibly keep everything in stock that our customers want, some items have to be taken care of as a special order for our store customers or as a back order for mail orders. The procedure for this is to write a purchase order for the requested merchandise. This order is given to our purchasing agent, Mrs. Crouch, who sends it to whatever company distributes what the customer asks for. As soon as we receive this merchandise from them we fill our orders. Some of it is prepared for our shipping department to send to whatever destination is requested. Most store customers only require a telephone call to let them know their order is ready to be picked up. If they cannot be reached by telephone we send them a postal card advising them that their order is ready to be picked up.

Our main function is to give you the best service that we possibly can. It's a very rewarding feeling when our customers make us feel that we have succeeded in doing so.

Through unity and prayer let us strive to help our store continue to spread God's Word. Only you as customers, and we as employees, with God's help, can do this.

Ruby Tripp

"TIME, PROGRESS, AND COMPLIANCE"

Time serves as a healing process by which we are able to gain insight from issues which arise. Time allows us to do some reflecting on the past and then deal with these issues in an appropriate Christian way. In examination of an issue which has had its effects on our denomination, time has again allowed us to gain realistic insight and guidance in an opportunity which exists for the Free Will Baptist people.

In 1970, the Free Will Baptist Children's Home Board of Directors signed into compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This act was, in brief, affirmative action taken by our government to undo some of the wrongs that had been committed in the past against minorities. At this time, all other children's homes had already signed in compliance with this act, or were considering signing, with the exception of two others and ourselves.

As all of us remember, the late 1960's and early 1970's were difficult adjustment times for all. Busing was a large issue, integration of our public schools, and many other changes were seemingly being forced upon us. A natural reaction for many of us was to resist this apparent force to make us change our ways of doing things. It was just not the way things had been done in the past. Hence, a natural reaction for the State Convention in 1970 was to resist signing in compliance to this act that we really didn't understand anyway. It was all so new and different. As a result, the Children's Home Board withdrew from compliance at the insistence of the convention.

The Children's Home, Middlesex

Since that time, during the last decade, we have seen many changes taking place all around us that were direct results of this act and others like it. We now realize, thirteen years later, that many positive things happened because of the 1964 Compliance Act. Of course, hindsight is always much better than foresight.

A brief look into some of the major fears we had about signing into compliance with this act in 1970 will help us to take a more realistic view of where we are today. What were some of these fears and concerns raised at that time?

(1) There was a fear that government was going to take over our Children's Home and there would not be a continuance of separation between church and state which our Children's Home enjoyed.

In 1983 we see that there still exists a separation of church and state and that the government wishes to maintain this separation as much as the church. This separation is maintained in church-affiliated children's homes because there is no direct monies being spent for the advancement of those particular religions by giving support to the children in care. The financial support given to church-affiliated homes by the government goes toward meeting the direct needs of the children in care. Hence, the government has no vested interests in the buildings or grounds of those institutions.

This allows them to operate independently, as always. However, there exists a cooperative effort between the church and the state to see that the needs of the child and the family are met. The "best interest" of the child is of the utmost concern for all involved.

At this point, we know for a fact that all those children's homes who signed in compliance have never been sorry they did. They have been able to work cooperatively with the state and expand upon their program of services for children.

(2) There was a concern about the effects of possible integration between races among the children in care.

In 1983 all those children's homes in compliance have experienced integration and have dealt with this adjustment very well. There have not been any apparent problems with this phase of compliance. These homes are pleased to be able to serve the children that have come to them as a result of integration. However, it seems that none of them have experienced more than a 10% population change in the admission of minority children.

It also seems apparent that the views of the Free Will Baptist people have changed regarding this matter. We have come to realize that "a child in need is a child in need." We cannot, in a Christian attitude, reject a needy child simply because of the color of his skin or any other inherent characteristic which makes him different from the majority of us. We realize that being a Christian means to be "Christlike." There is no doubt that Christ has all intentions of accepting us "all" into His care in Heaven.

(3) It was suspected that our rules, bylaws, and regulations for the operation of the home would be subject to forced changes if we signed into compliance.

We have seen that this has not occurred with other homes. They still operate their homes as they choose, with their own governing boards being responsible for the operation, just as ours is now. As long as there are no policies which are inherently discriminatory, there should be no changes made.

(4) There seemed, at that time (1970), to be a concern that we would open our doors to non-Free Will Baptist children.

This, I do not feel, was a prevalent concern among Free Will Baptists even at that time. We have always served children regardless of their denomination. Free Will Baptist children do have priority in services being offered and should rightly continue to enjoy this preference. However, if we should never serve another Free Will Baptist child in our Children's Home, we should praise the Lord for our good blessings among those of our denomination. At the same time, there are many children, other than our own, who need a Christian home and the influence of a Christian ministry, such as our Home offers.

Again, in 1983, the Free Will Baptist Children's Home Board of Directors has taken a very scrutinized and insightful look into the positive effects of signing compliance. The board has done this because it is their responsibility to operate and maintain the Children's Home in good faith and in the best interest of the denomination as a whole. In the light of past events, the history of the effects of other children's homes in compliance, our present status, and a look toward the future, the board has moved to sign in compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Listed below are some of the positive effects this will have on our Children's Home ministry:

(1) We will be able to receive children through placement from state agencies, which will increase our population of children and enhance the scope of our ministry.

(2) We will be in accordance with the law of the land.

(3) We will enjoy the cooperative efforts of the local departments of social services in meeting the needs of children and their families.

(4) We will open the doors for federal and state funding which will be a great financial help in meeting the direct needs of these children; medical, food and educational benefits will be received.

(5) It will enhance our chance to continue enjoying the tax-exempt status for gifts and private donations.

(6) The tax monies that are paid by us and the relatives of those children in care will, in some part, be available to help care for these children.

In conclusion, there seems to be a brighter future for our Children's Home in the light of the action which has been taken. God has given us a gracious opportunity and along with it a serious responsibility to care for those children who need us. We are moving on to enjoy His blessings in doing as He has instructed us and to make progress in the work of this ministry.

Publicity Committee,
Free Will Baptist Children's Home

Note: In an educational effort, the board appointed the Publicity Committee and instructed that information be gathered and published. The articles submitted by the committee are endorsed by the board of directors.

FINANCIAL HELP REQUESTED

As we reported to you earlier this month, our funds during the summer months are always low and this year has been no exception. We are requesting that each of our churches bring an offering of $200 each to the State Convention earmarked for the Children's Home. This would help us to re-coup from the low income over the summer.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

Scripture Reading—Luke 18:18—19:27

THE BOSS MAY BE HERE TODAY!

When Shackleton was driven back in his attempt to reach the South Pole, he was forced to leave some men on Elephant Island, promising to come back for them. Time and again he tried, but was unable to reach them. At last, although it was the wrong time of the year, he made another great attempt. An open channel formed between the sea and where he left his men. He rushed in his boat at risk of being "nipped" by the ice, got his men, and rushed out again before the ice crashed together. It only took half an hour! Afterwards he turned to one of the rescued men and said, "How was it you were able to come so quickly?" The man answered, "Sir, Mr. Wild (Shackleton's second-in-command) never let a chance slip; you had promised to come and we were waiting for you. Whenever there was a chance of your coming, Mr. Wild said, 'Boys, roll up your sleeping bags, the boss may be here today,' and, Sir, our sleeping bags were all rolled up; we were ready!"

Jesus has said, "I will come again!" We do not know when He will come. We know that He will come. Let us be ready for His coming!

MONDAY, AUGUST 29

Scripture Reading—Luke 19:28—20:26

PERHAPS TODAY

Perhaps today our Lord will come
To bear us to our much loved Home:
Before the evening shadows fall
May sound the longed-for clarion call;
Then out of sorrow, tears and strife,
We'll rise to realms of joy and life.

Perhaps today will be the last,
And time shall be forever past.
Our light affliction will be o'er,
Then Glory! Glory! e rmore!
These days of toil a.d pain will cease
And faithful workers rest in peace.

Perhaps today mine eyes shall see
The Lamb of God who died for me:
Oh, nothing else will matter then,
If unto Him I've faithful been.
Live for that day, O soul of mine,
And joy eternal shall be thine.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30

Scripture Reading—Luke 20:27—21:19

I AM WAITING

I am waiting for the dawning
Of the bright and blessed day,
When the darksome night of sorrow
Shall have vanished far away;
When forever with the Saviour,
Far beyond this vale of tears,
I shall swell the song of worship
Through the everlasting years.

I am looking at the brightness—
See, it shineth from afar—
Of the clear and joyous beaming,
Of the "Bright and Morning Star";
Through the dark, gray mist of morning
Do I see its glorious light;
Then away with every shadow
Of this sad and weary night.

I am waiting for the coming
Of the Lord who died for me;
Oh, His Words have thrilled my spirit,
"I will come again for thee."
I can almost hear His footfall
On the threshold of the door,
And my heart, my heart is longing,
To be His forevermore.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31

Scripture Reading—Luke 21:20—22:27

LO, HE COMES

Lo, He comes, with clouds descending,
Once for favored sinners slain;
Thousand, thousand saints attending,
Swell the triumph of His train;
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
God appears on earth to reign!

Yea, Amen! Let all adore Thee,
High on Thine eternal throne:
Saviour, take the power and glory;
Claim the kingdom for Thine own.
O come quickly, O come quickly,
Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Scripture Reading—Luke 22:28—71

IF CHRIST SHOULD COME SUNDAY

If Christ should come next Sunday,
And it may be that He will,
Would the thing that I'll be doing
Set the Master's heart athrill?

If the Christ should come next Sunday
Would He find me loyal, true,
In my place with my influence
Doing what He'd have me do?

If the Christ should come next Sunday,
Let's suppose He came at ten,
Would He hear me answer "present"
In the class I should attend?

If the Christ should come next Sunday,
If He came just at eleven,
Would He find me in His service,
Singing praises unto Heaven?

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Scripture Reading—Luke 23:1-45

WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM

Spurgeon received one day a copy of Andrew Bonar's commentary on Leviticus. Spurgeon was greatly blessed as he read it. He returned it to its author with this request: "Dr. Bonar, please autograph this book, and paste your picture on the title page. Then return it to me." Bonar did as requested. Below the picture he wrote, "Dear Spurgeon: Here is the book with my autograph and my photograph. If you had been willing to wait a short season you could have had a better picture. When I see Christ, I shall be like Him."

May this be true for us all.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Scripture Reading—Luke 23:46—24:12

FUSE RELIGIONS OR DIE

Thus counseled Arnold Toynbee, the British historian in the Gideon Seymour memorial lecture in Northrup Auditorium of the University of Minnesota. Toynbee said that living together as a single family is the only future mankind can have now that Western technology has simultaneously annihilated distance and invented the atomic bomb. The alternative, he added, is mass suicide. The only alternative to the destruction of the human race is "a worldwide social fusion for all the tribes, nations, civilizations, and religions of man."

How significant are these words to the student of the "sure word of prophecy," as given us in the eternal Word of God! We believe that the stage is now being set for the coming of the world dictator, the antichrist, under whose sway world religion, in all of its falsehood and antagonism to God and His Christ, will hold universal sway.

Long ago, Nebuchadnezzar "made an image of gold," and commanded all to "fall down and worship the golden image," death being the penalty for disobedience to his decree. Universal worship will be a decree of the antichrist, and the trend is unmistakably in that direction now.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Scripture Reading—Luke 24:13-53

WORK, FOR THE DAY IS COMING

Work, for the day is coming!
Day in the Word foretold.
When, 'mid the scenes triumphant,
Longed for by saints of old,
He who on earth a stranger
Traversed its paths of pain,
Jesus, the Prince, the Saviour,
Comes evermore to reign.

Work, for the day is coming!
Darkness will soon be gone;
There ere the night of weeping
Day without end shall dawn.
What now we sow in sadness,
Then we shall reap in joy;
Hope shall be changed to gladness,
Praise be our blest employ.

Work, for the Lord is coming!
Children of light are we;
From Jesus' bright appearing
Powers of darkness flee.
Soon will the strife be ending,
Soon all our toils below,
Not to the dark we're tending,
But to the day we go.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Scripture Reading—John 1:1-34

HOT OR COOL TEMPER?

When temper is out of control,
It is a menace to one's soul,
It rages where peace should abound
And reason is no longer sound.

When tempers rise to angry heat,
Love goes down in dire defeat
And willpower wanes impotent
Until temper's madness is all spent.

When temper is controlled and cool
One's not induced to play the fool,
Conscience resumes its proper role
As mentor to one's will and soul.

(Turn the Page)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Scripture Reading—John 1:35—2

FLYING OFF THE HANDLE!

When in Africa, I knew a missionary with an uncontrollable temper. One day he was out working with a group of natives. He became angry with one of them and, with his booted foot, kicked him over. That missionary—and I apologize for calling him a missionary—might as well have packed up his belongings and gone home, for that one fit of temper forever spoiled any possibility he may have had to help bring the natives to God.

Keep your temper—nobody wants it!

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Scripture Reading—John 3

ABANDON SHIP!

The ominous, frightful command, "Abandon ship!" was given. The so-called "unsinkable ship"—the Titanic—was sinking. Then came the order, "Women and children go to the lifeboats!" The ship's band began to play "Nearer My God to Thee." There were many deeds of heroism and unselfishness that night, but there was one exception. What appeared to be a stooped and feeble old lady, with a shawl drawn closely over her face and shoulders, pressed with the women and children toward a lifeboat. A sharp-eyed officer on the ship observed the agility of the "old woman." He grabbed the shawl and snatched it away, uncovering the face, not of an aged, decrepit grandmother, but of a despicably selfish young man! Pointing his pistol at the cowardly fellow the officer commanded him to go away.

Gladstone said: "The greatest curse of the human race is selfishness."

We are naturally selfish. Supernaturally, we become unselfish.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Scripture Reading—John 4:1-39

AN ILLUSION

There's a heap o' joy in living,
When we're living as we should;
And the greatest joy is giving,
Where it does the greatest good;
And we come to this conclusion,
As the more of life we see,
It is merely an illusion,
When we live it selfishly!

It's the old, but truthful story,
If we strive for great success,
And we win, it lacks the glory,
If we win by selfishness,
For we find life's sweetest pleasure,
After all is said and done,
When we give in fullest measure,
Of the riches we have won!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Scripture Reading—John 4:40—5:27

MOTIVES

"What can I do for you, Madam?" Abraham Lincoln asked an elderly lady who had been ushered into his private office. Placing a covered basket on the table she said, "Mr. President, I have come here today not to ask any favor for myself or for anyone. I heard that you were very fond of cookies, and I came here to bring you this basket of cookies!"

Tears trickled down the gaunt face of the great President. He stood speechless for a moment; then he said, "My good woman, your thoughtful and unselfish deed greatly moves me. Thousands have come into this office since I became President, but you are the *first one* to come asking no favor for yourself or somebody else!"

It is when we forget ourselves that we do things that are remembered.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Scripture Reading—John 5:28—6:21

THE CRUST THAT FAILETH NOT

Is thy cruse of oil failing?
Rise and share it with another,
And through all the years of famine
It shall serve thee and thy brother.

Love Divine will find thy storehouse,
Or thy handful still renew;
Scanty fare for one will often
Make a royal feast for two.
For the heart grows rich in giving;
All its wealth is living grain;
Seeds, which mildew in the garner
Scattered, fill with gold the plain.

Is thy burden hard and heavy?
Do thy steps drag wearily?
Help to bear thy brother's burden;
God will bear both it and thee.

Is thy heart a living power?
Self-entwined, its strength sinks low;
It can only live in loving,
And by serving love will grow.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

For August 28

MORDECAI AND ESTHER: CHALLENGE AND COMMITMENT

Lesson Text: Esther 2:7; 4:13-16; 8:3-8

Memory Verse: Esther 4:14

What is history? One definition would be that it is a series of past happenings. Thus we say, "That is all history now," meaning it is over and done with. If we speak of *a* history, we mean a record of past events. Usually we think of history as related to the human race—what people have done and what has happened to them. But it is still the past that we have in view—"the inexorable past," some call it—which cannot be changed.

Yet, there is a lineal dimension to history; it is an ongoing process, with some relation between past event and present happening. What is that relationship? Think deeply, for the question is most significant. Is that ongoing process simply a matter of cause and effect? Is what we experience in our lifetime absolutely determined by past events? Or is there some *purpose* in the succession of events we call history?

Those who see no purpose in history, and therefore no purpose in their lives, consider only that they are caught up in the historical process. They see themselves as on a giant treadmill, going nowhere. Many who possess this concept are among those who say, "Stop the world, I want to get off." This surrender of the spirit to a predetermined destiny is reflected in the words of Captain Ahab in Herman Melville's *Moby Dick:* "By Heaven, man, we are turned round and round in this world, like yonder windlass, and Fate is the handspike."

But as the child of God considers the relation of past event to present happening, he sees *purpose* in the ongoing process. Consequently, he does not view himself as being on a treadmill, for he is on a journey, going somewhere. More than a journey, his is a pilgrimage, because, to the Christian, history is a sacred process, a spiritual event. It is a record of human endeavor but it is not unrelated to the divine will. This is not to say that God wills everything that happens, yet God *does* will that His ultimate purpose in creation be realized. With the eye of faith one sees that divine purpose beyond the event and thus understands the true meaning of history. He must then choose whether he will seek to live in harmony with or in opposition to the divine will and purpose.

In any case, God's ultimate purpose will be attained. We must choose for ourselves whether or not we will seek a part in the achieving of that purpose.

If one is determined to seek and to follow the will of God, he will sometimes have to stand against the current of history. This was the experience of Esther. The course of events threatened to sweep her people into oblivion. Challenged by Mordecai, her foster father, Esther responded positively and acted promptly. She did not remain idle, passively accepting the status quo. Instead, she committed herself to changing the course of history for the better.

The events recorded in the Book of Esther transpired near the close of the Old Testament period. Many Jewish exiles in Babylonia and Persia had returned to Jerusalem, and in 516 B.C. they completed the rebuilding of the temple. Others would return later. But many Jews never did join in the trek back to Judah, preferring to remain in the lands to which their parents and grandparents had been taken. The reign of the Persian king, Ahasuerus, during which these events transpired, was from 485 to 465 B.C.

The situation was one of grave peril for the Jews. The villain was Haman, who had been promoted to the highest office in the land, next to the king himself. His position demanded that all people bow down and reverence him. However, Mordecai, a Jew, would not do this. Haman was filled with rage. To vent his fury he did not consider it enough to do away with Mordecai alone; he would destroy every Jew in the land. By convincing Ahasuerus that the Jews were diabolical enemies of the state, he received the king's permission to undertake their extermination. Letters, signed and sealed, were dispatched to all provinces, ordering all people "to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day" (Esther 3:13). And a date was set when the execution was to take place.

Esther the queen was herself a Jewess, but this fact was not known. She was not even aware of the decree that had been issued until word to that effect was sent to her by Mordecai. What should she do? Should she remain silent in this time of peril? Mordecai challenged her to another course. As we have noted already, she accepted the challenge and committed herself to a definite plan of action.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

For September 4

GOD OF CREATION

Lesson Text: Genesis 1:1; Psalm 19:1-4; Acts 17:24-28; Romans 1:20

Memory Verse: Psalm 19:1

When a woman makes a dress, the dress tells us something about the

(Continued on Page 27)

A LOOK AT OUR SUNDAY SCHOOLS

by Janie Jones Sowers

During the 1981 Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, a resolution was adopted that called for the appointment of a committee of representatives from the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, the State Sunday School Convention, and the Executive Committee of the State Convention to study the Sunday school literature needs of our people and church.

This committee was formed and is composed of the following individuals: Free Will Baptist representatives—Mr. R. Clifford Gray, executive director, Janie Jones Sowers, editor; Sunday School Convention representatives—Mr. Stanley Jenkins, president, the Rev. Frank Grubbs, director of literature; Executive Committee representatives—the Rev. Jackie Godwin, vice president, the Rev. Roy Clifton, member at large. The Rev. Gary Bailey, president of the State Convention, assists the group.

After hours of lengthy discussions, it was determined that one of the best ways for us to know the literature needs of our people was to talk with them. So we sent out literature surveys, one to every church, in April. A second form was sent to those who did not respond to the first one last month.

At the time of this writing, 102 of 369 churches have returned their forms. Let me share some facts with you from these reports.

Average Attendance—79
Average Number on Roll—106
The Average Church Membership—157
Most Sunday schools were not departmentalized.
The Following Topics were given as Possible Topics for Elective Materials:
Free Will Baptist Church History, Free Will Baptist Doctrine, Marriage and the Christian Family, Alcohol, Drugs, Current Issues, Church Relationships, the Sunday School Ministry.

A more detailed report can be found in the September 7 issue of this publication. I encourage you to study it.

There are still a lot of churches who have not responded. I urge you to fill out the form found on Pages 25 and 26. Afterwards, mail it to me at the following address: Janie Jones Sowers, Free Will Baptist Press, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513. Your prompt attention will be appreciated.

LITERATURE SURVEY

NAME OF CHURCH _____ CONFERENCE _____

NAME OF PERSON COMPLETING SURVEY _____

POSITION IN SUNDAY SCHOOL _____

SIZE OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE _____

NUMBER ON ROLL _____ NUMBER ON ROLL ONE YEAR AGO _____

NUMBER OF CLASSES _____

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP _____ AVERAGE CHURCH ATTENDANCE _____

LIST CLASSES AND GIVE AGE LEVELS OF EACH

Class	School Grade or Age Level	Number on Roll	Literature Used*	Length of Teaching Time

*Free Will Baptist or other (If other, specify)

IS YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPARTMENTALIZED?

WHERE DO YOU PURCHASE YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIALS?

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN AN ELECTIVE SERIES? IF SO, ON WHAT SUBJECTS?

PLEASE GIVE THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF YOUR TEACHERS BELOW.

Name and Address	Class Taught

COMMENTS

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 6)

Gospel Music Program Scheduled at Wintergreen

There will be a program of gospel music at Wintergreen Church, Route 1, Cove City, on Saturday, August 27, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Arnold Price and his family from Northern Church in Durham will be the featured singers. A great blessing in the Lord is expected and the public is invited to attend.

Elm Grove Has Youth Sunday

The YFA and AFC of Elm Grove had charge of Sunday school, morning worship service and Sunday evening worship service on July 31. The youth proved once again that there should be no fear for the church of tomorrow. The youth showed that they would be ready to take charge. Barry Williamson spoke at the morning worship service and did a great job; each YFA member spoke for above five minutes on his favorite Scripture in the evening service. Elm Grove is proud of their youth and encourage them to keep up the good work.

The Rev. C. M. Coats Receives Plaque

On March 13, 1983, the Rev. C. M. Coats, 208 Hancock Street, Smithfield, resigned from Riverside Church, Cape Fear Conference, Johnston County, Route 1, Princeton, after serving seventeen years as pastor. On Sunday, May 29, the church presented him a plaque for his services and had an appreciation luncheon.

On June 19, 1983, at Melvin Allen's pond, he baptized 4 new candidates. They were Susan King, Benny King, Carson McCullen, and Paris Penny, with Butch Penny joining the church, too. This made 19 new candidates during the last two years that Mr. Coats has served at Riverside Church.

The people at Riverside love Mr. Coats and feel he will say: "I'll go where you want me to go; I'll do what you want me to do; Purge me with hyssop and cleanse me, that I may go forth and continue in your Word and become the disciple you want me to be."

(Due to an error in the July 20 issue, we are reprinting this entire article.)

NOTICES

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and all Bible Bookstores in Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston, and Whiteville will be closed on September 5 in observance of Labor Day.

Due to our policy of printing 48 issues a year, there will not be a *Free Will Baptist* paper dated August 31. The issue next will be dated September 7, 1983.

The State Sunday School Convention's Annual Pastors-Superintendents' Banquet will be held Friday night, September 9, at King's Restaurant, Kinston, at 7 p.m. The Rev. Bass Mitchell will be the speaker. All pastors and superintendents are urged to attend.

Chris Singleton

To all churches and Conferences in good standing with the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist churches:

The Rev. Vance Link, having met the requirements of the Western Conference Board of Ordination is hereby reinstated to full fellowship in the Western Conference and is now a member in good standing with the Western Conference.

Ray Wells, *Clerk*
Western Conference
Board of Ordination

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(Continued from Page 23)

seamstress. Is she a careful worker or a careless and hasty one? Does she like things plain or fancy? Is she more concerned about style or about usefulness. From the answers to such questions we may come to some conclusions about the maker's character—integrity, patience, and dependability.

If the things we make tell something about us, then the things God made tell something about Him. He splashed boundless space with galaxies, millions of them, some so far away that it takes centuries for their light to reach us. The more we learn of them, the more we know of the splendor and magnificence of the Creator.

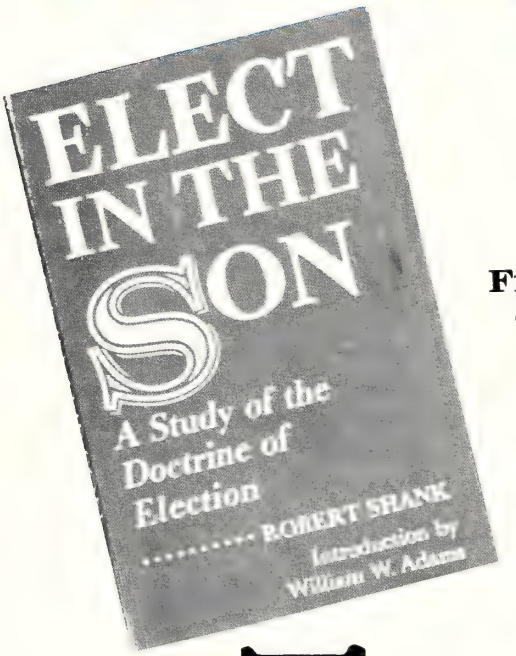
No less impressive is God's attention to tiny things. He knows every sparrow, every hair on a human head (Matthew 10:29, 30). In this age of nuclear physics, we know He understands things much smaller than those. He knows each tiny particle that goes into the making of an atom. God not only keeps track of each star; He also keeps track of every subatomic particle in all the millions of galaxies with billions of suns and multiplied trillions of lesser spheres! To those who have ears to hear, creation shouts of the Creator. He is the God of infinite space, and also the God of each atom.

The whole first chapter of Genesis lies in the background of this lesson. This week's study, however, focuses on the God of creation rather than on creation. Many different Scriptures remind us that God is the Maker of all things and that all things tell us something about Him. For special consideration, we have four short passages:

Genesis 1: God the Creator
Psalm 19: David the Singer
Acts 17: Paul the Preacher
Romans 1: Paul the Writer

—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

Off the Bookshelf...



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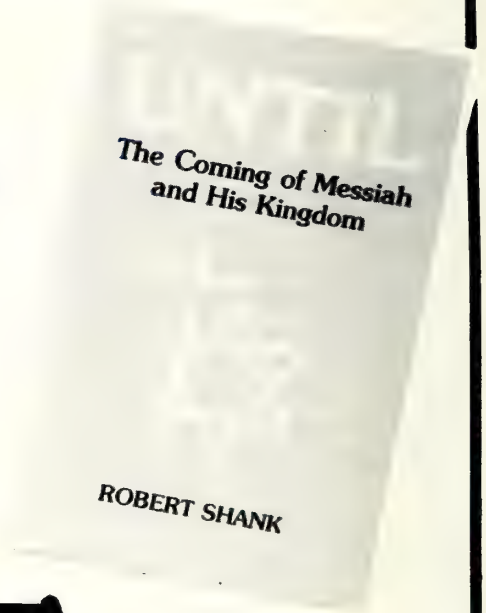

From the pen of Dr. Robert Shank comes meaningful books. To those who have read *Life in the Son,* the singular significance of *Elect in the Son* will come as no surprise. This work on the difficult question of election, on which good men of contrary persuasions have differed from the days of Augustine, will prove to be definitive.

***Until: The Coming of Messiah and His Kingdom* is a comprehensive survey of prophetic Scriptures of both the Old and New Testaments. This work demonstrates that fulfillment of God's redemptive purpose for Israel, the Church, and the nations.**

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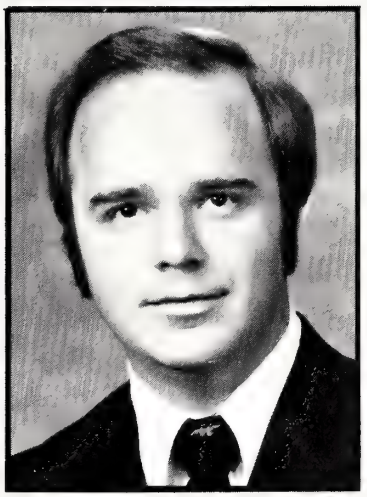
The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1983
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



State Convention '83

Time Draws Near

The Free Will Baptist

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September 7, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

"By One Man . . ."

Few things fascinate me more than God's dealings with the Children of Israel, and one particular incident has caused me to do a great deal of thinking recently. A study of the concluding verses of Joshua 6 would lead one to believe that the Israelite victories would go on and on. All looked good. Joshua did what was right and observed God's orders in everything. But just when Israel's affairs were in their best posture, when prospects for the future were the most hopeful, sin caused another interruption in their progress.

Now the Lord had directed the people to totally do away with Ai. The Children of Israel were not to spare any lives or to take any treasures for themselves. But Achan took of that which was accursed. The sin of this one man caused the Lord to turn His face from the people. Let me say this again for the sake of emphasis: Guilt was brought upon the whole body, the Children of Israel, the society of which Achan was a member, because of what he alone did. It was recorded that "the Children of Israel committed a trespass" because Achan had not been separated from them or disowned by them. And as a result of this trespass, Joshua's fame, wisdom, courage were of no benefit. The Lord God was set against them: "Think not that God's mind is changed, his arm shortened, or his promise about to fail; no, it is sin, it is sin, that great mischief-maker, that has stopped the current of divine favours and has made this breach upon you."

Today's Christian community finds it difficult to even whisper the term **sin.** Perhaps that is one reason why we are often accused of having compromised our convictions. Many may call this assessment an uneducated one, or say it has not been thought out—but be that as it may. My query is this: If God would turn His face from the Children of Israel because of one man's trespass, can our present Church condition be the result of existing transgressions?

It is easy to convince ourselves that no one will find out about our trespass, but we can be assured that one way or another, sooner or later, our sins (secret or unknown) will be brought out into the light. Many an individual, congregation, community has been under guilt and the resulting wrath of God and not been aware of it until the "fire broke out." We need to take heed of sin ourselves—lest by it we may be defiled or disquieted. I do not relish the idea of being held guilty for another's error. "We should concern ourselves to watch over one another for the preventing of sin because others' sin may redound to our damage."

The Israelite defeat at Ai served to humble Israel, harden the Canaanites, and act as evidence of God's discipline. What will our defeats teach us?

CRAGMONT WOMEN'S CONFERENCES August 1-6, 8-13

Women's Conference, August 1-6

The theme for the two Cragmont Women's Conferences was "Seeking Abundant Life." Scripture reference Luke 11:9, 10 was used as a basis for morning devotions and Bible study.

Mrs. Alice Barrow read Psalm 121 for devotions on Monday night and Mrs. Dola Dudley, director of the conference, extended greetings to the group and a tired but happy bunch of women said goodnight.

Mrs. Marie Jones gave the Tuesday devotions in the first conference and Mrs. Shirley Ricks presented them the second week. Their subject was "Ask."

On Wednesday, the subject was "Seek." Mrs. Annie Ruth Parrish was speaker for the first week and Mrs. Lew Ellen Parker, the second.

The subject for Thursday morning was "Knock." Mrs. Sandra Hargis presented the message the first conference and Mrs. Ruth Warrick the second.

Mrs. Dot Dail spoke Friday morning on "Find" the first week and Mrs. Zalene Breeden spoke the second week.

Mrs. Alice Barrow conducted a Bible study each morning at 11 using a discussion type program with a recapping by different members of the audience taking part.

The music period conducted by Mrs. Alma Dale with Mrs. Geraldine Summerlin at the piano and Mrs. Alma Buck, organist, was a blessing as we learned new songs and blended voices together on the old songs as well. There were several who rendered special music during the weeks.

Miss Rudene Kennedy did the nightly Bible study each week except on Friday night. She based her message on John 3:16 and gave us an in-depth study and most inspiring message on that passage at each service.

Friday night was Missions night. The Rev. Harold Jones, director of Foreign Missions, and Mr. and Mrs. Willem Van der Plas, missionary candidates to India, were in charge of the service and were truly a blessing.

In the afternoons those who cared to boarded the buses for Asheville and the Farmer's Market on Tuesday; Folk Art Center, Black Mountain, and Biltmore Estate on Wednesday; and the outdoor Drama, "From This Day Forward," at Valdese on Thursday. Friday afternoon was fun and recreation time.

The attendance for the Conferences was 105 campers each week full-time and 5 who registered part-time the first week.

State officers attending one or both weeks of the Conference were Mrs. Happy Taylor, President; Miss Sara Willoughby, Vice-President; Mrs. Ruth Warrick, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Nadine Crocker, Assistant Treasurer; Miss Becky Jo Sumner, Youth Chairman; Mrs. Nina Grace Register, Study Course Chairman; Miss Caroline Castelloe, Missions Chairman; Mrs. Virginia Joyner, Program Chairman; Mrs. Alice Barrow, Editor of *Devotion;* Assistant Editor of *Devotion,* Miss Leah McGlohon; Mrs. Dola Dudley, Literature Chairman; and Mrs. Rachel Duncan, Field Worker.

(Turn the Page)

Women's Conference, August 8-13

District Presidents in attendance were: Miss Becky Jo Sumner, Albemarle; Mrs. Grace Barbour, Cape Fear; and Mrs. Carolyn Bennett, Piedmont.

There were many local auxiliary officers in attendance at the conferences.

Mrs. Frances Phillips served as campus nurse the first week and Mrs. Iris Johnson the second week.

A memorial service was conducted on Friday afternoon by Mrs. Dola Dudley for those who had been at Cragmont and had passed away since last year.

The Cragmont Staff, headed by the Rev. and Mrs. John Williams, were most gracious hosts. The food was delicious and they made us comfortable in every way possible.

The Conference Director, Mrs. Dola Dudley, and Mrs. Alice Barrow did a wonderful job in choosing a staff that kept us inspired and seeing that everyone was "bedded" in a place of her preference.

The offering on Wednesday night went to Cragmont for the retirement of the debt on the main building. The amount given this year from the Conferences was $5,064.78.

The offering on Friday night went to Foreign Missions. The total given for missions was $2,893.18. We are so grateful for women and their dedication to the enterprises of our denomination.

We bade farewell to Cragmont Saturday morning with the hope that each one would be back next year.

Ruth L. Warrick
Corresponding Secretary
Women's Auxiliary Conference

Support the '83 State Convention with . . .

your attendance,
your prayers,
your finances.

HERITAGE MISSION BECOMES A CHURCH

Heritage Mission of Charlotte became a fully organized church on Saturday, July 16. The Piedmont Conference provided the leadership in organizing the church. They worked closely with the pastor, Dr. Eugene Poston. The procedure for organizing was taken from *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage.)*

The Rev. M. E. Cox, moderator of the Piedmont Conference, presided over the organizational program. Two mission pastors were present, the Rev. Ronnie Hall of Agape Mission in Raleigh, and the Rev. Dean Kennedy of Haymount Mission in Fayetteville.

Clay Lefler, mayor of Matthews, brought special greetings to the group and presented Dr. Poston with an official VIP cap from the town of Matthews. The Rev. Wayne Watson, first pastor of the Heritage Mission, spoke about the beginning of the work. Dr. Cedric Pierce, pastor of Black Jack Church near Greenville, brought a special message from the mother church of the mission, pledging their continued support and prayers for the new church.

The Rev. John Furr, clerk of the Piedmont Conference, presented the motion from the executive board that Heritage go into full church status. The Rev. Carlee Stallard, treasurer of the conference, presented a gift of $522 from the churches of the Piedmont Conference as a token of their love and prayerful support.

The Rev. Carl Lyons brought a large delegation from the East Rockingham Church. The Rev. David Atkins, a member of the executive board, could not be present to present the

(Continued on Page 18)

A LOOK AT OUR SUNDAY SCHOOLS

by Janie Jones Sowers

During the 1981 Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, a resolution was adopted that called for the appointment of a committee or representatives from the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, the State Sunday School Convention, and the Executive Committee of the State Convention to study the Sunday school literature needs of our people and church.

This committee was formed and is composed of the following individuals: Free Will Baptist representatives—Mr. R. Clifford Gray, executive director, Janie Jones Sowers, editor; Sunday School Convention representatives—Mr. Stanley Jenkins, president, the Rev. Frank Grubbs, director of literature; Executive Committee representatives—the Rev. Jackie Godwin, vice president, the Rev. Roy Clifton, member at large. The Rev. Gary Bailey, president of the State Convention, assists the group.

After hours of lengthy discussions, it was determined that one of the best ways for us to know the literature needs of our people was to talk with them. So we sent out literature surveys, one to every church, in April. A second form was sent to those who did not respond to the first one last month.

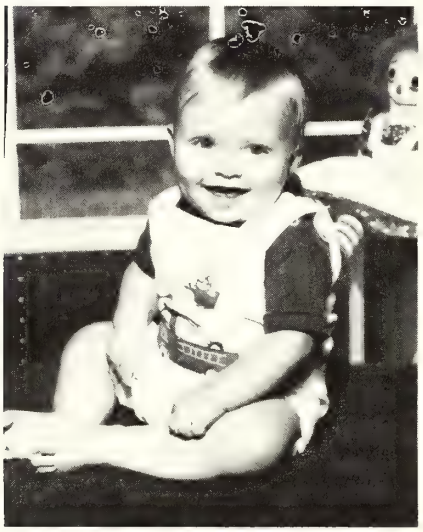
At the time of this writing (August 31), 109 of 269 churches have returned their forms. Let me share some facts with you from these reports.

Average Attendance—79
Average Number on Roll—105
Average Number on Roll One Year Ago—103
Average Church Membership—161
Average Church Attendance—93
The number of Sunday school classes ranges from three to thirteen.
Following Are the Totals of Students Enrolled in the Given Age Groupings:
- Birth—6 years old: 1,007
- Grades 1—3: 688
- Grades 4—6: 709
- Grades 7—8: 1,172
- Grades 9—12: 939
- Total Adults (from High School Graduation up): 6,670

The Length of Teaching Time Varies from twenty to fifty minutes.
Most Sunday Schools are not departmentalized.
The Following Were Given as Possible Topics for Elective Materials:
- Free Will Baptist Church History
- Free Will Baptist Church Doctrine
- Marriage and the Christian Family
- Alcohol
- Drugs
- Current Issues
- Church Relationships
- The Sunday School Ministry

An update of this report will follow in October. If your church has not returned a survey form, please encourage this being done. The form should be sent to Janie Jones Sowers at the following address: Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513.

Baby Contest at First Church, Durham



Jeremy Gowan

The Ladies Auxiliary of First Church, Durham, held a baby contest to help raise money for an extra church payment. There were 6 contestants and the winner was Jeremy Gowan. There was a total of $823.85 raised. Jeremy is the grandson of the church's choir director, Olif Paschall.

Special Singing at Smyrna Church

The Down East Boys will be singing at Smyrna Church, Blounts Creek, on September 11. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend. The pastor of the church is the Rev. A. G. Smith.

Cape Fear Youth Fellowship News

The Cape Fear Youth Rally met at Powhatan Church on August 6. Both attendance banners were given to Palmer Memorial with 22 youths and 12 adults. There were 217 people present for the rally.

The new pastors at Powhatan and Riverside were introduced, the Rev. Donald Venable, at Powhatan, and the Rev. Dennis Pollock, at Riverside.

The Rev. Alton Howard spoke on the new Home Mission being started at Princeton. Local churches were to ask each adult to give $1 and each child 25¢, the contributions to be turned in to H. T. Hinson.

The program was presented by the Bethesda youth. They led 5 songs while the congregation sang along. Then they gave a delightful puppet show. The Rev. Donald Venable invited everyone to stay for refreshments and then gave the benediction.

Everyone was reminded to not forget the State Youth Project to be turned in by October. Each church is asked to contribute $100. This money will be used to purchase a portable stage for Mount Olive College.

The next meeting was held at Pleasant Grove Church on September 3.

Revival in Progress at Smyrna Church

Smyrna Church, Blounts Creek, is having its fall revival through September 9. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The evangelist is the Rev. William Littleton. There is special singing each night. The pastor of the church is the Rev. A. G. Smith. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of the services.

Revival Services at Core Point Chapel

Revival services will be held at Core Point Chapel Church, September 26-30. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Bobby Brown, pastor of Shiloh Church. There will be special singing each night.

Homecoming will be observed at the church on September 25. Everyone is invited to attend. The Rev. Timothy Webber is pastor of the church.

Grimsley Church to Have Fall Festival

Grimsley Church between Maury and Snow Hill will have its fall festival on September 10, from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. All kinds of crafts, baked goods, and Christmas goods will be sold. Hot dogs and drinks will be served all day. An auction will be held at 6 p.m.

NOTICES

To the Members of the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation:

About fifteen years ago I was elected to serve on this board.

It has been a profound joy to render whatever service I have rendered during these years. It has been a real privilege to work with the Board Members and Managers.

My interest for the Press and the printing of the gospel messages here will never diminish.

Since I have been blessed of God to serve in this capacity so long, I deem it necessary to tender my resignation to become effective today, this the 18th of August 1983.

May God direct you in choosing someone to succeed me.

Fred A. Rivenbark

To the churches of the Albemarle Conference:

The Quarterly Layman's League Rally will be held on September 9, 1983, at 8 p.m., with Union Chapel Church near Plymouth, serving as host.

We encourage all churches to participate, even those with no Layman's League.

We are pleased to announce that at our last rally we gave a gift of $100 to our Home Missions Board. With greater participation our objective is to provide even greater support for our enterprises and institutions.

We look forward to seeing you at Union Chapel Church.

Mike Cuthrell
Secretary-Treasurer

State Convention '83

SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION OF THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church
Clayton, North Carolina

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1983

MORNING SESSION

8:30—Registration of Ministers and Delegates
9:30—Convention Called to Order, the Rev. Scott Sowers
9:35—Congregational Singing, Mr. Jack Bircher, Music Director
—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Bass Mitchell
9:40—Welcome, Dr. Billy Yawn
—Response, Mr. Oscar Webster
—Partial Report of the Credentials Committee
9:55—President's Remarks, the Rev. Gary Bailey
—Appointment of Committees
—Executive Committee Report
—Miscellaneous Report

REPORTS

10:10—Home Missions, the Rev. Charles Crisp
10:20—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Mr. R. Clifford Gray
10:30—Superannuation, the Rev. Don Fader
10:50—Retirement Homes, the Rev. Walter Sutton
11:00—Congregational Singing
—Offering for the Convention
—Introductory Message, Dr. Robert Shank
11:45—Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15—Registration
1:30—Congregational Singing
—Recognition of Fraternal Delegates
1:40—Foreign Missions, the Rev. Harold Jones
1:55—Mount Olive College, Dr. Burkette Raper
2:25—Children's Home, the Rev. Bobby Taylor
—Adjourn for the Day

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1983

MORNING SESSION

9:00—Final Registration
9:30—Congregational Singing
—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Calvin Heath
9:40—Cragmont, the Rev. John Williams
9:50—Church Finance Association, the Rev. Walter Reynolds
10:00—Reports of Other Convention Boards, Committees, Commissions, and Auxiliaries
10:50—Obituary Committee
11:00—Congregational Singing
—Offering for the Convention
—Message, Dr. Burkette Raper
11:45—Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:30—Congregational Singing and Prayer
—Final Report of Credentials Committee
1:35—Treasurer's Report, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood
—Report of the Resolutions Committee
—Report of the Nominating Committee
—Adjournment and Benediction

CONVENTION PERSONALITIES

Dr. Robert Shank

Robert Shank is known internationally among Bible scholars for his significant books in the field of biblical theology, used in seminaries and colleges of many denominations. His books *Life in the Son* (1960) and *Elect in the Son* (1970), regarded by many as classics, have enjoyed a distribution of nearly a hundred thousand copies. Dr. William Adams of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, who wrote introductions for both books, wrote in a brief foreword (1971), "It is my considered judgment that Robert Shank's two books *Life in the Son* and *Elect in the Son* will stand against any attempt to refute them from the Scriptures, and that the passing of time can only prove them to be finally definitive on the long-debated theological questions of election and perseverance."

In recognition of the importance of his contributions to theology, in 1975 Pepperdine University conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters.

Dr. Shank was twenty-two years a Southern Baptist pastor, and taught fourteen years at Faith Bible Academy, Camdenton, Missouri, serving seven years as president. Forty years a minister of the gospel among Southern Baptists, Christian Churches, and Churches of Christ, Dr. Shank now devotes his time to his writing and lectureships and preaching missions. His book *Until: The Coming of Messiah and His Kingdom* (1982) has attracted favorable attention of Bible scholars in Israel as well as here in the States.

In June of this year, Dr. Shank was one of a group of eighteen evangelical Bible scholars and religious leaders in the United States who, by invitation of the Israel Universities Study Group in Jerusalem, were participants in eight days of conference with Bible scholars, religious leaders, and leaders in government and public life in Israel.

Dr. Burkette Raper

Dr. Burkette Raper is President of Mount Olive College.

The Rev. Gary Bailey

The Rev. Gary Bailey is President of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and is pastor of Stoney Creek Church near Goldsboro.

CONVENTION AREA MOTELS

Clayton—The Johnstonian Motel, Highway 70

Garner—Best Western, Highway 70

Smithfield—Holiday Inn, Highway 70
Days Inn, Highway 70-A
Royal Inn, Highway 70-A
Econo Lodge, Highway 70-A

CONVENTION AREA RESTAURANTS

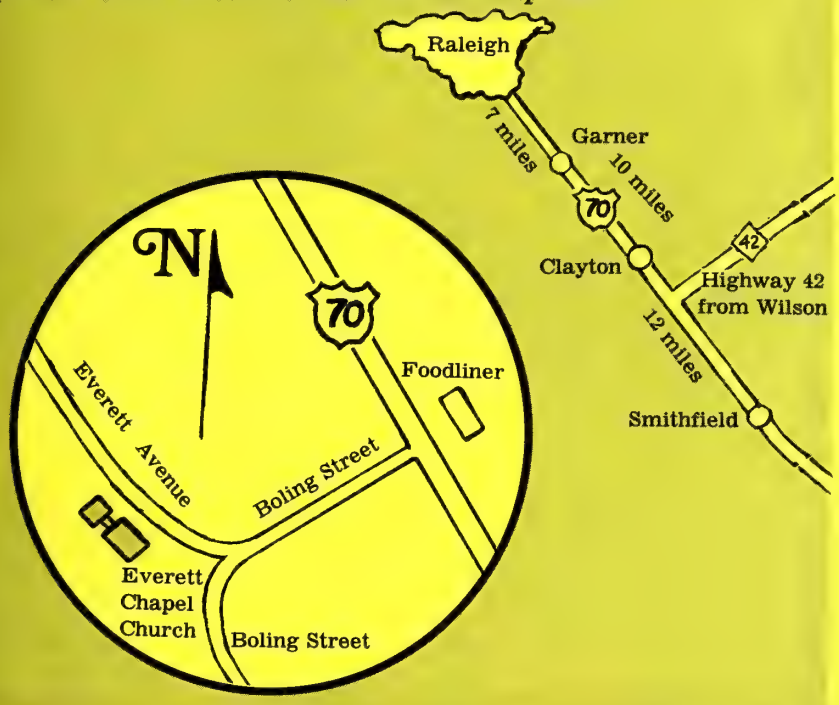
Clayton—Hardee's
Smithfield BBQ
Dairy Queen
Wendy's
Pizza Hut

Garner—Pancake House
McDonald's
Hardee's
Hickory House

Smithfield—Western Steer
Log Cabin
Bojangles
Park House Restaurant
Bonanza
Stuckey's

EVERETT CHAPEL CHURCH MAP

The 1983 session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will be held at Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Clayton, North Carolina. The location of the church is found on the map below.



Off the Bookshelf...

From the pen of Dr. Robert Shank comes meaningful books. To those who have read *Life in the Son*, the singular significance of *Elect in the Son* will come as no surprise. This work on the difficult question of election, on which good men of contrary persuasions have differed from the days of Augustine, will prove to be definitive.

***Until: The Coming of Messiah and His Kingdom* is a comprehensive survey of prophetic Scriptures of both the Old and New Testaments. This work demonstrates that fulfillment of God's redemptive purpose for Israel, the Church, and the nations.**

CAPE FEAR MISSIONS BOARD STARTS NEW MISSION IN PRINCETON

Dear Friends in Christ,

We, the Cape Fear Missions Board, have purchased a mobile home that will be used to begin missions in the Cape Fear Conference. Our first work will be in Princeton, North Carolina. The State Home Missions Board has endorsed this work to help in whatever way they can to give assistance to the Mission pastor, Brother Floyd Smith of Selma, North Carolina. The Princeton Original Free Will Baptist Mission will begin its first service on Sunday, September 4, 1983, with Sunday school at 10 a.m. and worship services at 11 a.m. Revival will begin on Monday evening, September 5, 1983, and will continue through Friday, September 9, for the church. The time of the services is 7:45 p.m. The speaker will be the pastor, the Rev. Floyd Smith. A cordial welcome is extended to everyone.

We, the Cape Fear Missions Board, have asked that all the churches of the Cape Fear Conference be mother churches to this work. We are asking each adult member to send us $1 and each young person $ .25 for the support of this work. Any donations should be forwarded to Brother H. T. Hinson, Route 2, Dunn, North Carolina 28334. Please earmark donations for the Cape Fear Missions Board. We are not asking anyone to stop supporting the other denominational enterprises, but to help us get this work started.

The Rev. Alton D. Howard, *Chairman*
The Rev. Arnold Price
The Rev. T. C. Farmer
Leo Bass
The Rev. Mike Scott

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 1982, THROUGH JUNE 30, 1983

ALBEMARLE

Albemarle District Auxiliary Convention	$ 675.01
Albemarle Union Meeting	20.00
Belhaven	50.00
Cape Colony	16.00
Corinth	10.33
Gum Neck	50.00
Hickory Chapel	617.54
Malachi's Chapel	253.25
Mount Tabor	195.00
Mount Zion	524.80
Plymouth, First	130.00
Saint Paul	445.00
Shiloh	179.50
Sidney	978.79
Trinity	100.00
Union Chapel	647.25
Total	$ 4,892.47

CAPE FEAR

Bethel	$ 205.00
Casey's Chapel	50.00
Catalpa	97.00
Daly's Chapel	100.00
Eastover Mission	158.00
Eastwood Mission	54.04
Goldsboro, First	1,464.30
Haymount Mission	1,249.67
Hopewell	483.95
Johnston Union	420.00
Lee's Chapel	932.95
Mount Olive	10.00
Oak Grove	129.72
Palmer Memorial	453.33
Pleasant Grove	200.00
Powhatan	821.67
Riverside	530.00
Robert's Grove	270.00
Saint Mary's Grove	75.00
Saint Paul	126.00
Shady Grove	1,052.60
Smithfield, First	205.00
Smyrna	50.00
Tee's Chapel	470.00
Victory	135.60
Wooten's Chapel	50.00
Yelverton Grove	262.88
Cape Fear Conference	903.67
Youth Fellowship	100.00
Total	$ 11,060.38

CENTRAL

Aspen Grove	$ 155.00
Ayden	442.00
Bethany	543.73
Black Jack	1,041.96
Community	10.00
Daniels Chapel	1,445.00
Dilda's Grove	20.00
Edgewood	210.18
Elm Grove	767.35
Free Union	543.00
Friendship	1,974.04
Greenville, First	270.00
Grifton Mission	55.00
Grimsley	140.00
Gum Swamp	710.00
Harrell's Chapel	979.00
Hickory Grove	284.67
Howell Swamp	309.00
Hugo	1,160.18
Hull Road	1,420.00
King's Cross Roads	3,097.72
LaGrange	319.54
Little Creek	340.00
Marlboro	87.00
Ormondsville	270.00
Otter's Creek	251.41
Owens Chapel	864.82
Peace	115.75
Piney Grove (Beaufort County)	217.00
Piney Grove (Pitt County)	158.40
Reedy Branch	360.00
Roanoke Rapids, First	12.50
Rocky Mount, First	527.50
Rose Hill	470.00
Rose of Sharon	190.00
Saratoga	679.50
Spring Branch	770.00
Sweet Gum Grove	105.00
Tarboro, First	1,540.00
Walnut Creek	375.00
Watery Branch	65.00
Williamston, First	310.33
Winterville	1,436.18
Central Conference Mission Board	1,750.00
Fourth Union Meeting	82.58
Second Union Meeting	63.05
Total	$ 26,938.39

EASTERN

Antioch	$ 400.00
Arapahoe	812.00
Beaufort	618.95
Bethel	100.00
Bethlehem	250.00
Beulaville	340.00
Bridgeton	222.00
British Chapel	200.00
Cabin	55.00
Christian Chapel	300.00
Core Creek	375.00
Crab Point	145.00
Croatan	105.00
Daly's Chapel	50.00
Davis	235.40
Deep Run	170.00
Dublin Grove	50.00
Edwards Chapel	60.00
Faith Mission	10.00
Faith (Morehead)	200.00
Folkstone	572.82
Friendship	70.00
Gethsemane	314.00
Gospel Outreach	15.00
Gray Branch	820.00
Hillsberry	70.00
Holly Springs	1,821.26
Indian Springs	85.00
Jackson Heights	332.75
Juniper Chapel	641.34
Kinston, First	344.44
Lanier's Chapel	70.00
Macedonia	300.00
May's Chapel	225.00
Memorial	138.89
Moseley's Creek	555.00
Mount Zion (Onslow County)	125.00
Mount Zion (Pamlico County)	185.00
New Haven	200.00
Northeast	864.60
Oak Grove	31.50
Oriental	47.42
Pearsall Chapel	300.00
Pilgrim's Home	150.00
Pilgrims Rest	128.83
Piney Grove	50.00
Rock of Zion	20.00
Rooty Branch	177.42
St. Mary's	875.61
Saints Delight	670.00
Sandy Plain	1,061.26
Sarecta	220.00
Smith's New Home	285.00
Sneads Ferry	50.00
Snow Hill	570.00
Sound View	755.94
Spring Hope	31.00
Trent	65.00
Verona	220.00
Wardens Grove	184.91
Warsaw, First	180.00
Welcome Home	125.00
Westside	1,134.80
Whaley's Chapel	215.00
White Hill	107.00
White Oak	107.61
White Oak Grove	140.85
Wilmington, First	25.00
Wintergreen	471.25
Woodrow, First	30.00
Eastern Conference Mission Board	1,800.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	20.00
Fifth Union Meeting	85.00
Third District Sunday School Convention	40.00
Third Union District	160.00
Total	$ 22,983.85

INDIVIDUALS

Ambrose, Mrs. Howard L.	$ 20.00
Baker, Paul L.	150.00
Baker, Sallie G.	250.00
Ballance, Vera	50.00
Baker, Fred	220.00
Barfield, Mrs. W. H.	30.00
Barrow, Mr. and Mrs. D. W.	10.00
Beaman, Helen T.	50.00
Best, Viola	10.00
Benton, Joseph B.	100.00
Boyette, Mrs. Eva T.	100.00
Branch, Charles E.	6.00
Brown, Mrs. L. S.	10.00
Bunn, Roney B., Jr.	30.00
Coats, C. M.	25.00
Crabtree, Mr. and Mrs. Dale	60.00
Creech, Rudolph	30.00
Crisp, Charles	235.00
Crocker, Marjorie D.	20.00
Daniels, Mrs. Vernon J.	25.00
Edwards, E. E.	5.00
Edwards, Eddie	100.00
Evans, Ruby	25.00

(Continued on Page 12)

TIME, PROGRESS AND COMPLIANCE

We, as Free Will Baptists, are at a point we must ask ourselves if we want to continue to care for children. We need for more of you to visit the Children's Home and attend the board meetings, to talk with the children and listen to their concerns and needs, so that you might know the facts. It is easy to believe and repeat what we hear without really having the whole story. We all need to know all the facts and the only way we can know is by being involved.

As Free Will Baptists we can be proud of our past accomplishments in our child care ministry. Some have said, "Yes, we did it without compliance." Did we? For years we have operated by State law requirements and with assistance from State funds provided by taxpayers. After 1981 we no longer received State funds because of changes in State law appropriations. The appropriation of State funds was only to child care institutions that received children from Departments of Social Services of whom the Department of Social Services held legal custody. Our state agency's (the Department of Human Resources) only desire is to make sure that every child who is in need receives proper and adequate care.

As a result of not complying with the Civil Rights Act in 1964, the Departments of Social Services were not allowed to place children in our care. We have seen our child population decrease, our Duke endowment decrease and the loss of State Grant-in-Aid. Because of the decrease and loss of these funds we have had to borrow nearly $100,000 from our endowments. We have decreased staff and sought to cut expenditures in as many areas as possible without sacrificing child care.

As a board we saw the need to regain State resources that we had lost so that we could continue to provide quality child care and future growth. The only way to get State help was to sign into compliance. We, as a board, felt we had the responsibility to act. We did so, not in haste, but in faith that the people at large trusted us as a board to carry on the work that we had been designated to do. We knew that there would be some questions, but we prayed that our people would listen prayerfully to the reasons why and that our child care ministry would continue to meet the needs of children.

The Children's Home is one of the greatest mission fields we Free Will Baptists have. We have many good ministries as a denomination and the child care ministry is as great today as it was in the beginning. Many children, who for reasons beyond their control, need the love, care and support that our Home can give. Free Will Baptists have worked faithfully for 63 years to provide "a Christian Home for boys and girls." It will be good to hear, "Well done, my good and faithful Servant."

The Children's Home, Middlesex

NOTE:
In an educational effort, the board appointed the Publicity Committee and instructed that information be gathered and published. The articles submitted by the committee are endorsed by the board of directors.

(Turn the Page)

FINANCIAL REPORT

Below you will find an income report comparing income and expenditures for the past four years. The "Total" figure includes Free Will Baptists, friends, the Duke endowment and **all** other sources, including monies from State Grant-in-Aid which stopped in July 1981. The figures reflect contributions from July 1 through June 30 of the years indicated.

Year	FWB	Friends	Total Income	Expenditures	**Variance
***1979-80	$209,059	$17,308	*$543,598	$471,647	$72,131
****1980-81	215,427	18,554	446,604	495,313	(48,709)
1981-82	223,735	24,732	370,374	373,694	(3,320)
1982-83	211,290	39,108	350,947	363,907	(12,960)

*1979-80 Total includes a bequest of $140,204.21

** ( ) indicates we spent more than we received

*** During 1979-80 the Home Received $95,012 in State Grant-in-Aid Funds

**** During 1980-81 the Home Received $100,089 in State Grant-in-Aid Funds

During the last few years the Home has had to borrow from its Gay Fund in order to meet expenses.

"A NEW EXPERIENCE FOR SHERRY"

Sherry is a 7-year-old female child who has recently transferred from our residential group care program to foster care in Wilson, North Carolina.

Sherry is excited about her foster family and has been looking forward to this move. She will be missed by her siblings, houseparents, children, and staff at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc. We wish her much happiness and success in her foster home.

HOME MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 10)

Fowler, Edna	25.00
Futrelle, Foy C.	160.00
Furlough, Mrs. D. H.	20.00
Furlough, John M.	75.00
Garner, Wallace R., Jr.	6.00
Gay, Mrs. Ben F.	10.00
Godwin, Bertha H.	5.00
Goodson, Mrs. Kermit	10.00
Goulding, Mrs. Parthenia	10.00
Gray, Adaline H.	10.00
Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Leo T.	30.00
Grantham, James E.	50.00
Griffin, J. C.	10.00
Grimsley, J. J.	40.00
Grimsley, John W.	150.00
Hall, Ronnie	50.00
Hall, Kenneth	1.00
Hansley, D. W.	44.80
Harber, Bob	25.00
Harper, Mrs. Elton	10.00
Harris, Dennis	100.00
Harris, Mrs. Charlie, Jr.	50.00
Harris, H. B., Sr.	15.00
Harris, Floyd and Eva	250.00
Harris, R. P.	10.00
Hathaway, Betsy E.	50.00
Herndon, Sarah L.	25.00
Hill, David	100.00
Hill, Mrs. Gregg	190.00
Hollis, Thelma	10.00
Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. James B.	220.00
James, Eugene and Pat	50.00
Jarvis, Hazel C.	5.00
Jones, Bruce	100.00
Jones, Nellie	25.00
Jones, Plummer	5.00
Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur	200.00
Kennedy, Percy	50.00
Kirby, Mattie P.	5.00
Lee, John R.	10.00
Little, Marvin	50.00
Lucas, Mr. and Mrs. James	5.00
McCaffity, Ida M.	30.00
Manning, Elza	55.00
Massengill, Eva B.	10.00
Merrell, George A.	25.00
Mills, Carroll R.	30.00
Moore, Ruby P.	10.00
Morris, Vera Lee	25.00
Morris, Velma	30.00
Mizell, Irvin	5.00
Nobles, Mr. and Mrs. C. R.	10.00
Overman, W. C.	10.00
Overton, W. C.	10.00
Page, H. Macon	60.00
Parrish, Penny M.	25.00
Pate, Mrs. John S.	30.00
Pope, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert C.	5.00
Poston, Eugene	50.00
Prince, James W.	10.00
Proctor, Mr. and Mrs. Charles R.	60.00
Quinn, Allen	25.00
Rollins, Alma S.	30.00
Rollins, Robert	40.00
Roper, Mr. and Mrs. E. G.	25.00
Scott, Mike	25.00
Shackleford, Lucille	19.00
Shepherd, Mr. and Mrs. Ray	5.00
Smith, Mrs. Haywood	20.00
Smith, Jimmy	30.00
Starnes, Mrs. Addie	50.00
Starnes, Mrs. Elizabeth	1.00
Taylor, Bobby R.	25.00
Thornton, Edward	5.00
Thompson, Victor	35.00
Tripp, Celia C.	34.00
Vick, Ronald	100.00
Viverette, Charles	80.00
Wall, Dwight	10.00
Ward, Chester	25.00
West, Estell M.	10.00
Westbrook, Mrs. C. L.	30.00
Whitefield, Mickey	100.00
Whitley, Mrs. Betty	2.00
Williams, Frank, Jr.	25.00
Williamson, Mrs. Eva	30.00
Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. J. T.	50.00
Wilson, Beulah	25.00
Woodall, L. B., Jr.	20.00
Wood, Mrs. L. C.	10.00
Yawn, Billy R.	52.00
Total	$ 5,255.80

PEE DEE

Beaverdam	$ 2,080.55
Cypress Creek	489.35

(Continued on Page 18)

MY TESTIMONY

Charles Barnard

Throughout my life, since the age of eight or nine, I have repeatedly had to deal with one particular question. This question has been asked by persons of all ages, faiths, and class distinctions. Always, I have tried to answer it. Usually, the questioner has walked away satisfied. However, I'm not sure that I have ever been or am now completely satisfied that I know the correct answer.

By now, I'm sure I have your attention. You are wondering "What is this question?" Maybe, you think you know. Or, you have no idea. Before I satisfy your curiosity I will first set the stage, for this is to be my testimony of how God has worked His will in my life.

Each of us readily admits that life, though a continuous process, has very distinct emotional and physical stages. From birth to death man is ever involved in and ever encountering change. As a matter of fact, many never grasp the reality that the only constant in the universe is God. Most humans seem to drift from one stage of life to another without any sense of direction or purpose. This is truly a sad existence.

The person born and raised in a Christian home is no exception, it seems. He must face all the different stages and encounters faced by others. Yet, there is a difference. It may be far below the surface at times, but it is there. This variation is understood in direct proportion to the application of the constant (God) to the individual's personal life. You see, without a positive relationship of some type between man and his Creator life is without meaning or direction. Maturity and purpose seem unimportant and unattainable. Usually, reckless living is the result.

Now, back to **THE** question. I'm sure all of you can remember being asked, as a child, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Maybe you have asked the same question of your children or grandchildren. I have. This question is asked of us throughout the various stages of our life. It appears in many forms. Many children will answer such a query in a matter-of-fact tone. Often, the answers are predictable. One will want to be a doctor, another a nurse, still another will want to be a fireman. Usually, the adult will just smile knowingly and change the subject.

The above is not the question that bothers me. Just imagine the bright toddler as he looks into the face of his elder and without hesitation answers, "I want to be a preacher when I grow up." Or, worse yet, "I want to be a missionary." Mom lets out a shriek and exclaims, "Oh no!" Dad says, "You'll change your mind when you are older." Now, here comes the terrible question. Some busybody asks, "Why?" "Why do you want to be a missionary?" The "Why?" has been my constant "thorn in the flesh" for years. I can never escape it. Why?

I believe that the earliest stage of recognition of God's leading in my life came at about the age of eight and lasted until the age of thirteen. I call this the "Period of Innocence."

In the next installment of "MY TESTIMONY" I will share with you some of my earliest recollections of how this question affected me in that early stage of my life. I pray that my experiences will be helpful to some young person who is now wrestling with the same feeling that God has something special planned for his or her life. As a side effect, I hope that many parents will realize their responsibility to nurture such a calling in the lives of their child(ren).

Therefore, I leave you with this verse. "And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth" (1 Samuel 3:10).

Charles Barnard

COMING EVENTS

September—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

September 9—Pastors' and Superintendents' Banquet, 7 p.m., King's Restaurant Kinston

September 13—Statewide Evangelism Conference, 7:30 p.m., Everett Chapel Church, Clayton

September 14, 15—North Carolina State Convention of Churches, Everett Chapel Church, 307 Everett Avenue, Clayton

September 17—Central Conference District Youth Meeting, Grimsley Church, between Maury and Snow Hill, 7:30 p.m.

September 24—Central District Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention, Marlboro Church, Farmville

FLORIDA BOYS GET TOGETHER

The Rev. Chester Pelt, George W. Hatcher and Dr. Michael Pelt

Among more than fifty persons who attended the annual Ministers' Institute held at Mount Olive College in early August were three natives of Florida: the Rev. Chester H. Pelt of Marianna, Florida, and interim pastor of Zion Free Will Baptist Church near Blakely, Georgia; George W. Hatcher, a deacon from Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Bascom, Florida; and Dr. Michael R. Pelt, brother of Chester and Professor of Religion at Mount Olive College for the past twenty-six years.

They are shown standing outside a classroom at the College named in memory of the late Rev. Daniel F. Pelt (1909-1975), brother of Chester and Michael. A fourth Pelt minister, Jim, pastor of Christian Home Free Will Baptist Church, Blountstown, Florida, could not be present.

The visit to the Pelt classroom had personal meaning for Mr. Hatcher in that Chester and Daniel are former pastors of his home church and Michael has been a visiting minister on various occasions.

Another special feature of the picture is that the families of the three men shown, as well as the family of Daniel Pelt, each has endowment funds at Mount Olive College.

While at the College, Chester, a former pastor in the state and now a retired U.S. Army Chaplain, attended the semi-annual meeting of the Church-College Advisory Committee as a representative from the Paul Palmer Conference in Georgia.

In addition to participating in part of the Ministers' Institute, Mr. Hatcher attended worship service at Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church in Wayne County where he met the Rev. Gary Bailey, president of the North Carolina State Convention. He also made a special trip to Ayden to tour the Free Will Baptist Press and to Kinston to visit with the Rev. Wayne King, pastor of Westside Free Will Baptist Church. King is also a native of the Bascom, Florida, community and is a former member of Mr. Hatcher's church.

Hatcher described his North Carolina visit as "one of the best experiences of my life."

MERCER SPEAKS

Calvin R. Mercer Jr., professor of Religion at Mount Olive College, spoke recently at the Sunday morning service of the Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church.

Mercer is completing his Ph.D. in Humanities with a concentration in Religion at Florida State University. He has been at Mount Olive College two and one-half years.

The Hopewell Church is located near Smithfield. The pastor is the Rev. Davie Brinson.

1983 PLANNING SESSIONS FOR COLLEGE DINNERS

Below is a list of the remaining Planning Sessions for the 1983 College dinners. The pastor and person who will serve as the local church dinner chairman, along with other interested persons are requested to attend the meeting in their county.

Washington, Martin, Tyrrell, Pasquotank and Chowan Counties, Thursday, September 8, 7:30 p.m., Mount Tabor Church near Creswell

Pitt County, Monday, September 12, 7:30 p.m., Reedy Branch Church near Winterville

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties, Monday, September 19, 7:30 p.m., Oak Grove Church near Newton Grove

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September is Home Missions and Church Extension Month.

For September 11

GOD OF HISTORY

Lesson Text: Psalm 105:4-11, 37-45
Memory Verse: Psalm 105:5

I. INTRODUCTION

"The heavens declare the glory of God." That was our lesson last week.

God did not make the heavens and the earth and then abandon them. He keeps the earth turning and moving in its orbit, and He does the same for every star and satellite.

Besides all that, God has a hand in the history of mankind, and that is our lesson for this week.

Creation tells of God's everlasting power and divinity, as the *American Standard Version* puts it in Romans 1:20. Many events of history have the same message. A great flood destroyed all the wicked people in the world. Fire from Heaven erased Sodom and Gomorrah. God called the Assyrians to punish Israel (Isaiah 10:5, 6), and God called a halt when the Assyrians went too far (Isaiah 37:33-37). Likewise He sent the Chaldeans to punish sinful Judah (Habakkuk 1:6-9), and then sent Cyrus of Persia to punish the Chaldeans in their turn and end the punishment of Judah (Isaiah 44:24—45:7). For this week's study, however, we have events that tell of God's love and care as well as His limitless power.

Many events of history have been celebrated in song, and for this study we look to a song rather than to the historical record in Genesis and Exodus. This gives us a brief summary instead of the long record we would read in the other books. The song we use for this summary is Psalm 105.

Does it seem to you that the marvelous works of God are all in the past, that everything nowadays goes along in a very ordinary rut? Maybe you're the one in a rut, but if you stand tall you can see out. Just for fun, stop right here and get a pencil and paper before you read the next paragraph.

Ready? Make a list of marvelous works that God has done. Don't put down anything He did for Israel centuries ago—just list marvelous things you have seen with your own eyes. There's the sunrise, or is the sunset what you see? Look at your hand. Did you ever see such an utterly marvelous tool? Or look at your wife or husband. She or he is pretty wonderful, right? So think awhile—five minutes, maybe ten. List some more of God's marvelous works that you are acquainted with.

Next, make a list of things God has done or is doing for you personally. He didn't rescue you from Egypt; what did He rescue you from? He doesn't guide you with a cloud; how does He guide you? He doesn't feed you with manna; how does He feed you? Go on with a list of good things you wouldn't have without God's help. It's like counting your blessings, only you are really doing it, not just singing about it. Take five or ten more minutes.

Now make one more list. Write down things you have done for God in the past week. You don't have to limit it to praying, reading the Bible, and going to church. You know God wants you to earn a living, love your spouse, take care of the kids. Put those down. If you helped some sick or needy person in Jesus' name, that is like doing it for Him. You may be surprised to see how long this list will be. But if it seems a little short, take another five minutes and think of one or two things you will do this coming week—for sure!—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. UNDERSTANDING THE LESSON

Psalm 105 is one of the "salvation history psalms." It retells the history of God's saving acts, beginning with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and concluding with the settlement in Canaan. It is very much like Psalms 78, 106, 107, 135, and 136. It is also called a "Hallelujah Psalm" because it begins and ends with the Hebrew word "Hallelujah," which means "Praise the Lord!"

Psalm 105, like most of the psalms, was used in the worship celebrations of the Israelites. Its purpose is to stir the people to praise, thanksgiving, proclamation, and obedience, as they remember God's saving work in the past. It was also intended to encourage the people in the present. They are reminded that, just as God was active in the lives of their ancestors, so He is present and active in their lives. As a matter of fact, the worshiper was to act as if the whole story had happened to him! He would declare, "God delivered *us* from Egypt, and brought *us* into the Promised Land." Thus retelling God's acts in history helped the worshiper to know who he was and to know what God is like.—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Here are some dates and events in the history of Israel:

2000 B.C.—Call of Abraham.
1450 B.C.—Moses and the Exodus.
1400 B.C.—Entrance into the Promised Land.
586 B.C.—The Babylonian Captivity.
1948 A.D.—The rebirth of Israel as a nation.—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

Now is a good time to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Scripture Reading—John 6:22-71

WHAT'S FULL-TIME CHRISTIAN SERVICE?

The *Moody Monthly* editoralized thus: "Everyone isn't called to be a preacher or a missionary. Yet every person in Christian work, whether stenographer, accountant, engineer, scientist, copywriter, teacher, janitor or in any one of many other classifications, is truly in full-time service. Each makes a valuable contribution to the cause of Christ. At Moody we have more than four hundred full-time employees, and everyone is doing business for God. They make it possible for others to prepare for the ministry, mission field, Christian education or a ministry of music."

The world measures a man's greatness by the number who serve him. Heaven's yardstick measures a man by the number who are served by him.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Scripture Reading—John 7:1-36

SERVING ONLY FOR GOD'S GLORY

There was a humble shoemaker who was a devout Christian. One day a young minister called to see him, to enjoy his fellowship and talk with him about the things of God. Ineptly, the young minister said, "How good it is to meet a Christlike Christian in such a lowly occupation." The shoemaker answered, "Brother, don't call this occupation lowly." Before the shoemaker could say more, the minister, thinking that he may have unintentionally offended him, said, "Excuse me, my brother, I didn't mean to reflect on what you do to earn a living." To which the shoemaker replied, "You didn't hurt me, brother. I believe that my making shoes with an eye single to God's glory is just as great and holy as your preaching a sermon. I believe that when I stand before the Lord, He will ask me, 'What kind of shoes did you make?' He will ask you, 'What kind of messages did you deliver, and for whose glory did you deliver them?' "

Fret not because thy place is small,
Thy service need not be,
For thou canst make it all there is,
Of joyful ministry.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Scripture Reading—John 7:37—8:11

POTS, PANS AND THINGS

Lord of all pots and pans and things,
Since I've no time to be
A saint by doing lovely things,
Or watching late with Thee,
Or dreaming in the dawnlight, or storming Heaven's gates,
Make me a saint by getting meals,
And washing up the plates.

Although I have Martha's hands,
I have a Mary's mind;
And when I black the boots and shoes,
Thy sandals, Lord, I find.
I think of how they trod the earth,
Each time I scrub the floor.
Accept this meditation, Lord,
I haven't time for more.

Warm all the kitchen with Thy love,
And light it with Thy peace;
Forgive me all my worrying,
And make all grumbling cease.
Thou who didst love to give men food,
In a room or by the sea,
Accept this service that I do—
I do it unto Thee.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Scripture Reading—John 8:12-59

WILL NO ONE COME TO HELP HIM?

At Eastertime, many years ago, several paintings of things which happened during the week of Jesus' Crucifixion were displayed in an art gallery in London. "Christ Before Pilate" was one of the paintings. People stood silently before the painting. A little girl was among the group. She could bear the silence no longer. She cried out, "Will no one come to help Him?" That little girl was Evangeline Booth. When she grew to womanhood, she spent a long busy life helping Jesus to help others. In time, she became commander in chief of the Salvation Army, which world-wide organization carries on the healing, saving ministry which Jesus began.

My mind was so full of service
I had drifted from Him apart,
And He longed for the old confiding,
The union of heart with heart.
I sought and received forgiveness,
While my eyes with tears were dim,

Now, though the work is still precious,
The first place is kept for Him!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Scripture Reading—John 9

START DOING SOMETHING FOR GOD!

In Chicago one Sunday morning a minister in the course of his sermon pointed to a young woman who had been converted about a year and a half, and said, "What are you doing for God? Why don't you do something for God?"

To give emphasis to his words, he stepped down from the pulpit, went to where the young woman was sitting, took her hand, conducted her out to the middle aisle, made her turn toward the door, and giving her a push, said to her, "I want you to start doing something for God."

That push sent the young woman to the other side of the globe. She turned from her occupation, which was washing clothes, and began to study in preparation for Christian service. Later she went to Africa as a missionary.

In Africa she won to Christ many British people, including General Allenby.

The pastor who gave the young woman the push was D. L. Moody; the young woman was Miss Malla Moe, a missionary under the Evangelical Alliance Mission, who died in recent years at the age of ninety.

The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it but that our aim is too low and we reach it.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Scripture Reading—John 10

THE APPEARANCE OF EVIL

Psychologists say that if you put a frog into a pail of hot water he will jump out, but if you put him in a pail of cool water and then gradually heat it up, the frog will permit himself to be cooked. Apparently he is unable to decide when the water is so hot as to be unbearable. When sudden heinous temptations rear their ugly heads, most people instinctively shrink back; but the thing that causes many to get away from God is the almost imperceptible day-by-day drifting. The best protection is to get out of the pot when the water even begins to get warm.

Christians should avoid all appearance of evil instead of doing a balancing act on the line of demarcation between good and evil: "Abstain from all appearance of evil" (1 Thessalonians 5:22).

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Scripture Reading—John 11:1-44

ONLY ONE MESSAGE

A minister's text for his message was "There is no difference: for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:22, 23). A cultured, educated gentleman asked the minister, "Did you mean that there is no difference between a moral man and an immoral man?" Said the minister, "I did not mean that there is no room for comparison between two such men. There is this difference between them—one is a moral sinner and the other is an immoral sinner. One is a superior sinner and the other is an inferior sinner. Both are equally lost before God. Don't forget that it was to a moral, religious sinner to whom the Saviour said, 'Ye must be born again.' "

Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can and as long as you can. But remember, such action will not justify you. "Ye must be born again."

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

LOOKING AT SHERRON ACRES CHURCH, DURHAM

(Excerpts from the diary of the late John D. Currie)

January 5, 1941—Morning Service

This being a beautiful Sunday morning—the first Sunday in the year. There were three babies dedicated to the Lord: Lynda Fay Bizzell, John Durwood Currie and Robert S. Joyner. After this service, the preacher preached a very spiritual sermon to a good Sunday morning gathering of about 140.

January 5, 1941—Evening Service

Service opened as usual with the Junior Choir singing several songs. The building was filled to capacity with about 214. A wonderful sermon was preached by the pastor, with one soul being led to Christ, Ollie Hicks. It was a touching sight to see little Nancy Alice Hansley come to the altar to kneel and pray.

HOME MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 12)

Emerson	871.35
Mission Valley	20.33
Mount Calvary	40.00
Oak Grove	1,531.65
White Oak	260.09
Pee Dee Union Number 1	75.00
Pee Dee District Auxiliary Convention	90.00
Total	$ 5,458.32

PIEDMONT

Cathedral	$ 20.00
East Rockingham	520.14
Heritage	709.31
High Point	157.32
Highland Pines	259.00
Holy Cross	50.00
Piedmont District Auxiliary Convention	20.00
Total	$ 1,735.77

WESTERN

Advance Mission	$ 13.00
Agape Mission	250.00
Barnes Hill	400.00
Calvary	140.00
Durham, First	100.00
Elwood Lane	308.67
Everett Chapel	1,575.36
Fellowship	62.75
Flood's Chapel	64.00
Free Spirit	145.00
Free Union	650.00
Fremont	810.00
Friendship	561.00
Holly Springs	300.00
Kenly	306.02
Little Rock	1,117.00
Living Waters	64.46
Marsh Swamp	1,181.41
Memorial Chapel	20.00
Micro	218.20
Milbournie	300.00
Mount Zion (Nash County)	304.75
Mount Zion (Wilson County)	40.00
New Sandy Hill	110.00
Oak Grove	392.40
People's Chapel	225.00
Pine Level	390.00
Piney Grove	325.00
Pleasant Grove	598.25
Pleasant Hill	465.00
Pleasant Plain	135.00
Rains Cross Roads	137.50
Rock Springs	20.00
Rosebud	93.63
St. Mary's	1,360.00
Selma	100.00
Sherron Acres	550.00
Spring Hill	1,442.00
Stancil's Chapel	280.80
Stoney Creek	2,499.00
Stony Hill	626.00
Trinity	1,340.00
Union Chapel	53.61
Union Grove	947.60
Unity (Wilson)	200.00
Watson's Grove	50.00
Wilson, First	1,113.43
First Union Meeting	275.00
First District Sunday School Convention	61.00
Second Union Meeting	80.00
Youth Fellowship	30.00
Total	$22,831.84

In Memory of Forrest Pope:

Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. Williams W., Sr.	$ 25.00
Overman, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence	15.00
Total	$ 40.00

In Memory of Taylor Hill:

Hill, Lois, Kenny and Lanelle	$ 50.00
Fowler, Edna	10.00
Liles, Annie B.	10.00
Overman, C. H.	25.00
Roper, Mr. and Mrs. E. G.	10.00
Total	$ 105.00

In Memory of Reda Mae Harber:

Buck, Mrs. Ruby	$ 10.00
Christakis, John C.	50.00
Claiborne, Mr. and Mrs. Bill	15.00
Hooks, Mr. and Mrs. John Basden	20.00
Penzer, George and Carolyn	10.00
Shackleford Funeral Service	25.00
Waterford Baptist Cathedral	100.00
Total	$ 230.00

OTHERS

Cash Offering Commissioning Service	$ 70.00
Church Evangelism Conference	411.00
Mission Rally Cash Offering	513.50
North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary	630.87
St. Cloud Church, St. Cloud, Florida	166.48
Salvation Army	45.00
Woman's Auxiliary District Fund	200.00
Zion, Blakely, Georgia	50.00
Total	$ 2,086.85
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS:	$103.618.67

OTHER INCOME

Interest on Savings	$ 1,035.84
Check re-deposited	21.00
Outstanding check back in	62.18
Close out Advance Mission	396.07
Sale of Eastover Property	5,379.72
Sale of Advance Property	12,460.95
Total Other Income	$ 19,355.76

DISBURSEMENTS

Missions (all missionaries, director, salaries, expenses)	$105,904.56
Telephone	1,729.71
Office Rent	2,400.00
Office Equipment, etc.	1,463.59
Bookkeeping, Secretary, Printing, Postage and General Office Supplies	9,443.38
All travel expense	9,073.53
Church Finance Association	5,000.00
Deaf Camp	545.67
Promotional Materials	1,950.40
Refunds	262.00
Insurance (bond)	43.00
Lois Hill (love offering)	200.00
Taylor Hill funeral wreath	52.00
Church Growth Conference	600.00
Total Disbursements	$138,667.84

CASH IN BANK

Balance Savings July 1, 1982	$ 20,531.65
Balance Checking July 1, 1982	5,462.64
	25,994.29
Total Income	122,974.43
Total	$148,968.72
Less disbursements	138,667.84
Balance June 30, 1983	$ 10,300.88

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Crisp
Director/Treasurer

HERITAGE MISSION BECOMES CHURCH

(Continued from Page 4)

pulpit Bible; however, the Rev. George L. Greene, vice moderator of the conference, did an outstanding presentation.

Many churches were represented at the organizational meeting. Several letters of congratulations and prayers were received by Heritage.

At the close of the service, the Rev. M. E. Cox made an altar call for charter members. Twenty-two people responded. They are: Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Poston, Mrs. Joe B. Carver, Miss Paula Carver, Mrs. Roxie Creech, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Everett, Miss Sharon Everett, Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Griffin, Miss Helen Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. H. Brooks Mills, Miss Mandy Mills, Miss Denise Mills, Mr. Mike Salyer, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stegall, Mrs. Don Taylor, Mrs. James Troxler, Mr. Russell Troxler, and Mr. Clay Lefler.

Nine others on the mission roll will become charter members. Charter membership will be open until the end of August.

The entire congregation enjoyed a delicious fellowship meal following the organizational meeting.

When members of other Original Free Will Baptist Churches move to Charlotte, the pastors are urged to write to the church at 3628 Margaret Wallace Road, Matthews, NC 28105; or call the pastor, Dr. Eugene Poston at (704) 567-9197.

CAMP VANDEMERE FAITH FUND UP-DATE
THE DEBT IS DECLINING
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Debt at beginning of Campaign, July 1, 1983	$104.000
Contributions and commitments through August 21, 1983	15,942
Balance needed to liquidate debt	$ 88,058

Have you sent in your contribution or commitment yet?

If not, won't you please take time right **now** to fill in the commitment form below and forward it and your check to:

Camp Vandemere Faith Fund
Wachovia Bank & Trust Company
Marie Whitford
P.O. Box 406
Vanceboro, North Carolina 28586

Become a Camp Partner, send in your one time gift or commitment NOW.

God bless you richly and thank you for becoming a Camp Partner.

L. Grady Tucker, *Director*

CAMP VANDEMERE - FAITH FUND

To support its commitment to Christian recreation I (we) will give:

A one time donation of $_____

A monthly donation of $_____ per month for twelve (12) months.

Please make checks payable to Camp Vandemere Faith Fund

_____

DONOR_____

ADDRESS_____ HOME PHONE_____

CITY _____ STATE_____ZIP_____

Business (Firm & Address)_____

Free Will Baptist Church_____Conference_____

Signature_____

—GIFTS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AS ALLOWED BY LAW—

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ESSON ONE

SEP

GOD OF CREATIO

Selection: *The heavens declare the g*
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The Bible Text

Genesis 1:1
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Psalm 19:1-4
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The Free Will Baptist

WHERE TO FROM HERE?

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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September 14, 1983
Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Dewey Boling, President; C. Felton Godwin, Vice President; Ruth Taylor, Secretary; Adrian Grubbs, Assistant Secretary; Robert May; Eddie Edwards; Marice DeBruhl; James Billy Hardee; De Wayne Eakes; David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, Executive Director; Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

Editorial

Shortchanging Ourselves

It is Thursday afternoon and many seats can be found in the meeting area. The crowds that bustled around on Wednesday have really thinned out. All that seem to remain are ministers and maybe a handful of delegates. This is the first time some of the clergymen have been seated during the entire session—then again, this is the first meeting many delegates have missed. Does this sound familiar? Surely it must, for such is commonplace at the State Convention.

It was at a Union Meeting in 1898 (held at Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Pitt County) that Asa Garris made a resolution that began the groundwork for a State Convention. His resolution was as follows: "Be it resolved, that we earnestly request every Free Will Baptist church in North Carolina to represent in the next Union Conference by delegate, letter, or pastor with contribution."

No further action was taken toward a combined organization until 1912. At that time, Dr. E. L. St. Claire began the motion seeking "to increase our Zion and get our brethren united into one convention." The first State Convention was held September 17, 1913, in Bailey, North Carolina. Four Conferences (Cape Fear, Central, Eastern, and Western) represented, sixty-four churches sent delegates, and twenty ordained ministers registered. Annual sessions have been held ever since. (But one may wonder if we have forgotten our cause—that being "to advance, promote and increase the cause of Jesus Christ.")

Many churches go to a lot of expense to send their delegates and ministers to such meetings, and they are getting shortchanged when those they send do not attend sessions. Many—for one reason or another—duck out whenever business is being discussed. But is it not their (yea, our) ethical, moral, and spiritual obligation to **attend** all sessions and to **vote** on all business matters?

The percentage of persons actively taking part diminishes throughout the course of any Convention. Why are we so prone to voice our opinions and so unwilling to vote on issues? Why are we so quick to criticize but so unwilling to make better that which we lambaste? Why are we so eager to talk outside Convention doors—before and after business sessions—and during worship service—but so unwilling to stand up and be counted at the appropriate times? Are we our own main problem?

All decisions made, all business transacted may not meet with our approval, but even so it is our responsibility to pull together after issues have been settled. It is only when we unite our efforts, humble ourselves before God, and seek Him who made us that we can be all He has meant for us to be.

Our attendance, attitude, and voting patterns seem to be suffering from some chronic condition—and our Convention deserves more respect and consideration.

ANNUAL MEETING ONE OF HARMONY

The 1983 Annual Membership Meeting of Certificate Holders in the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. was a harmonious gathering. Held Tuesday, September 6, the meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. C. L. Patrick. Presiding over the meeting was the Rev. C. Felton Godwin, who challenged everyone to "let brotherly love continue"; he admonished us to dwell together in love and unity.

Mr. Godwin introduced the new Executive Director, Mr. R. Clifford Gray, who gave the financial report. A rising vote of thanks followed for Mr. Gray.

The body approved the Restated Charter of the Articles of Incorporation of Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. The Bylaws were then considered; a few items were changed, those dealing with the calling of special meetings, voting procedures, and vacancies on the Board.

The major term of business was the election of the new Board of Directors for the Foundation. Those elected are as follows: Three-year Terms—the Rev. Dewey Boling (Cape Fear), Mrs. Ruth Taylor (Central), the Rev. Adrian Grubbs (Eastern); Two-year Terms—Miss Marice DeBruhl (Eastern), the Rev. James Billy Hardee (Pee Dee), the Rev. De Wayne Eakes (Western); One-year Terms—the Rev. Robert May (Albemarle), the Rev. C. Felton Godwin (Cape Fear), the Rev. Eddie Edwards (Piedmont).

The Board assembled afterwards to elect officers. They are as follows: President—the Rev. Dewey Boling; Vice President—the Rev. C. Felton Godwin; Secretary—Mrs. Ruth Taylor; Assistant Secretary—the Rev. Adrian Grubbs.

The Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the management wish to thank everyone for their prayers and attendance. They are especially grateful for the manner in which everyone conducted themselves.

IN SEARCH OF ONE'S OWN SELF

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

The man talking to the reporter from the *Los Angeles Times* was identified as "a friend and board member" of the head of an evangelistic empire, whom he was describing: "When he's not on stage, he's intelligent, reasonable, logical and perceptive. But he's on stage too much."

He is, in other words, a role player.

He is not alone. I can identify with him as, I suspect, can many other Christian public personalities. The difference between the role and the real probably causes many of us some sleepless nights.

Since being ordained into the Christian ministry at 21, I have been more or less a "public person" with responsibilities which have made it difficult ever to develop a private self. Men of the cloth are particularly susceptible, I think, although not exclusively vulnerable.

I had a strange sense of *leja vu* as I reread the *Time* cover story about actor Peter Sellers (March 3, 1980). Appearing on The Muppet Show, he was told by Kermit the Frog that it was all right to "just relax and be yourself." To which Sellers replied, "I could never be myself. You see, there's no me. I do not exist."

Acknowledging that it was a good joke, *Time* saw a deeper significance: "The real Peter Sellers, at 54, is virtually a cipher." The magazine quoted a longtime friend as saying, 'Peter is the accumulation of all the roles he's played and all the people he's met. He's directing traffic inside all that."

Sellers died less than six months later. I don't know if he ever found himself. Nor do I know if, indeed, he ever searched for himself, although I suspect he may have. Something inside us yearns for discovery, even when it has been submerged for years. In part, at least, that is probably what the "mid-life crisis" is all about—the need to know oneself before going to the grave.

Thomas Merton believed ". . . the problem of sanctity and salvation is in fact the problem of finding out who I am and of discovering my true self." Equally profound is this statement by an anonymous young man: "I could know myself better if there weren't so many of me."

Some of these multiple personalities inside us exist as simultaneous roles. Others have been covered over and forgotten as roles changed. The recovering of authenticity means resolving the conflicting personalities as well as taking off the layers of wallpaper. Removing old wallpaper is, as anyone who has done it knows, a disagreeable task that yields only to persistence. I had just about forgotten some of those old patterns, applied so neatly through some 35 years of public ministry.

On reflection, I can see now that sometimes the role, the task to be done, does contribute a mystique, an enabling of its own. For example, upon some of its occupants, the White House has imparted a quality of leadership they did not have when they moved in. Why didn't it work for all? Perhaps because some of the men became amplified through honest versions of themselves, while others were trying to look and act as they thought a president should look and act.

But whether president or pauper, how do you go about recapturing genuineness? First, it takes a new kind of trust in God's presence and power. God leaves us free to be whatever we like. He does not clone human beings, but He gives us each a unique, authentic self and then encourages us to discover it, nurture it and expose it to others. However, we often find a familiar mask to be more secure than an unknown reality, especially if others approve the mask. Would they like me equally as much, we wonder? Probably. But it takes stepping over the frightening threshold of vulnerability in order to discover that the other side offers not hidden terrors, but the beginning of security.

Second, no person, I think, can come to know himself truly except through the process of disclosing himself to others. But that self-disclosure—removing the masks—can occur only in an atmosphere of love and trust. While it seems scary at first, it is more frightening to consider the consequences of continued pretense. Merton, the monk who excelled in the inner search, warns: "If we have chosen the way of falsity, we must not be surprised that truth eludes us when we finally come to need it."

But when genuineness is adopted as a way of life, it means no longer having to pretend, and that means freedom to grow and serve, and that means unspeakable joy and serenity.

When you know who you are, you don't have to impress anyone. When Jesus was taken before the High Priest, who asked, "Answerest thou nothing? what is it which these witness against thee?" (Mark 14:60, KJV), Jesus was silent.

Wrong question.

When the High Priest then asked Him if He was the Son of God, Jesus said, "I am."

Right question.

Before Pilate, who asked, "Are you the King of the

(Continued on Page 19)

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

by Doug Skinner

Ministers' Conference

The 1983 Ministers' Conference at Cragmont Assembly was held July 18-21 with the theme Scripture: Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and forever."

The conference was called into session on Monday evening with our annual communion and feet-washing service conducted by the Rev. Ralph Sumner. On Tuesday and Wednesday mornings we were led in seminars by Mr. Calvin Mercer and Dr. Eugene Poston. Mr. Mercer spoke Tuesday on the topic, "The Gospel of Mark: Exegesis and Exposition." Mr. Mercer's subject on Wednesday was, "God, Spirituality, and the Imagination." Dr. Poston spoke both mornings on the topic, "Messages from Revelation." On Tuesday afternoon there was an open forum with the leaders of the denominational enterprises. Our Tuesday evening service was led by the Memorial Committee as a Memorial Service followed by our annual business session. Wednesday evening was a worship service conducted by the Rev. Mike Scott. Our conference was concluded on Thursday morning in a prayer breakfast led by the Rev. John Williams.

We wish to thank this year's conference participants for very informative and helpful seminars, and for inspirational and challenging services. If you are a minister and did not attend the conference, you missed a real blessing. We wish to see you at our annual Ministerial Banquet in February.

If you have not sent your membership dues of $5 for the North Carolina Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association, please do so today by mailing them to: Rev. Doug Skinner, Box 117, Arapahoe, North Carolina 28510.

NEW BETHLEHEM HONORS PASTOR

by Mrs. Joyce Moore

The Woman's Auxiliary and members of the church met at the Village Restaurant in Oriental, North Carolina, on July 24, for a supper and presentation of the desk nameplate for the Rev. A. Graham Lane's desk. Mrs. Joyce Moore presented the plaque. The time of the meeting was 7 p.m. There were 53 members present. This was a surprise to Mr. Lane as he thought it was the monthly birthday meeting for the auxiliary to honor members having birthdays in the month of July. He didn't know it was to honor his 30 years of service to God.

Below is an article written by Mrs. Moore about Mr. Lane's service:

It is with great pleasure that we, New Bethlehem Woman's Auxiliary and church, honor you, the Rev. A. Graham Lane, for 30 years of continuous service to God and mankind.

As we look back over the past 30 years we find that you started your ministry on July 29, 1953, at British Chapel, Duplin Grove and Smyrna churches. We find that you also pastored at Juniper Chapel and White Hill.

Mr. Lane, we appreciate your serving New Bethlehem Church for 24 of these 30 years.

Your devotion to duty and your dedication to our church has set an unparalleled example; an example worthy of our thanks and of the approval of God.

With your kind words and cheering smile, New Bethlehem has advanced far under your leadership.

Mr. Lane brought his first message in our church on September 13, 1959, and continued to bring God-inspired messages each 2nd and 4th Sunday mornings until February 2, 1964, at which time he became full-time pastor for New Bethlehem.

Looking back on some of the spiritual strides that New Bethlehem has made during Mr. Lane's pastorage, we find that he has taught classes on "The Doctrine of the Free Will Baptist Church" that we might be better informed of our church creed. Our youth are one of his great concerns. He has started and participated in a youth program which has included both spiritual and recreational activities. When we see so many of our youth sitting in our pews each Sunday we know that his concern has kept them in close fellowship with God and the church. He has taught a number of Teachers Training Classes for the past few years so that New Bethlehem could have better informed teachers and leaders.

Mr. Lane, being a dedicated man, was not content unless he was about the business of the Lord. So along with his duties at New Bethlehem, which he never neglected, he found time in 1966, to help start Ruth's Chapel Mission, now the First Free Will Baptist Church of Woodrow. Mr. Lane held services two Sunday mornings each month at ten o'clock for several years until they were able to secure a pastor. At the same time, seeing another church in need of a pastor, he held services at the Core Point Free Will Baptist Church one Sunday each month at nine o'clock.

During his years with us he has been moderator of the Eastern Conference and chairman of the Board at the Children's Home. All of these extra activities along with his regular duties consumed much of his time, but he was working for the Lord and this is what makes him happy.

In all of his work, though he was away from home much of the time, his wife and helpmate has been close by his side with words of encouragement and loving concern.

Being so well pleased with Mr. Lane, the members of New Bethlehem Church in 1970, decided not even to vote for a pastor each year unless Mr. Lane or the church wanted a change.

In 1971, having been our pastor for some twelve years, and feeling that New Bethlehem was really his home, Mr. Lane, his wife and two daughters moved their membership to New Bethlehem (his son had accepted Christ and united with the church in 1966).

We have come to love you and your family as one of us, Mr. Lane. We thank God that you were led to come to us though we may have shown indifference many times.

Through these 24 years of service, the most compassionate of all is the way you have helped us through our personal crises, not knowing whether life or death would prevail. You have consoled us when our loved ones had to meet our Heavenly Father, always being there with words of comfort and encouragement. You have made us realize that God knows best and is the maker and keeper of all.

Mr. Lane, the New Bethlehem Woman's Auxiliary and Church wishes to take this opportunity to present you with this plaque. We hope to show you and yours how much we love and appreciate you and the leadership you have given us over these 24 years. We want you to know that we hope and pray you will be with us for many years to come.

So, we say from the depths of our hearts, THANK YOU, and God bless you and your family always.

". . . Well done thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Fall Revival at Union Chapel Church

The Rev. Wayne King

The Rev. Wayne King of Kinston, North Carolina, former missionary to the Philippines, will be the evangelist for the fall revival at Union Church, south of Plymouth on Highway 32. The dates for the revival are September 19-23. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each night. The pastor, the Rev. Swade Benson of Clayton, and the congregation invite everyone to come and enjoy these services.

Upcoming Events at Mount Zion Church

Revival services will begin on September 18 and will continue through September 23, at Mount Zion Church of Roper. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. W. D. Morris, D.D., of Gates, North Carolina, will be the guest speaker. He will be assisted by the pastor of the church, the Rev. W. C. Overton.

On Sunday, following the week's revival, homecoming will be observed. This date being September 25. Following the morning worship hour, dinner will be served on the church grounds. A singspiration will begin at 1:15 p.m. featuring special singing groups.

Everyone is invited to attend these services and enjoy the fellowship.

Revival in Progress at Wayside Tabernacle Church

Revival services are in progress through September 17, at Wayside Tabernacle Church in Thomasville, North Carolina. Sister Elaine Clontz is singing the first three nights and preachers are being called from the floor. The last three nights the Rev. Jack Bumgardner will be bringing the messages. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m.

Piedmont Conference Meets

The Piedmont Conference of Original Free Will Baptists met on August 26, 27, 1983, at Wayside Tabernacle in Thomasville, for their yearly meeting.

The Ordaining Council met and voted to receive the Rev. Carl Lyons into the conference. He is pastor of East Rockingham Church. He and Mrs. Lyons were given the right hand of fellowship.

Central District Youth Fellowship to Meet

The Central District Youth Fellowship will meet at Grimsley Free Will Baptist Church between Maury and Snow Hill on September 17, 1983, at 7:30 p.m. A very interesting program has been planned. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Revival and Homecoming at Pleasant Hill Church

Revival services will begin at Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church Monday night, September 19, and will continue through Friday, September 23. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The church is located on Highway 43 South, one mile north of Calico.

Evangelist for the revival will be the Rev. Danny Braswell, pastor of Peace Church near Pinetops, North Carolina. The pastor, the Rev. C. F. Bowen, invites everyone to attend.

Following the revival, on Sunday, September 25, the church will have its homecoming, beginning with Sunday school at 10 a.m. and continuing into the afternoon. Lunch will be served in the spacious new fellowship hall of the church.

Singing in the afternoon will feature the Girls' Trio of Wilson's First Free Will Baptist Church, led by its pastor, the Rev. Craig Simmons. All former pastors and members are welcomed.

Corinth Church Announces Events

Corinth Church will hold its fall revival, September 19-23. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Jack Mayo will be the evangelist. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Joseph Lehmann. There will be special music each night.

The church will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, September 25. All former pastors and friends are welcomed.

Albemarle Conference to Meet

The Albemarle Conference will meet on October 5, 1983, at the Free Union Church near Pinetown. All churches of this conference are asked to remember this date.

General Conference Youth News

God has blessed again with another successful youth night at the General Conference held at Sandy Plain Church in Pink Hill, with the theme from Psalm 91:1-4, on the "Secret

(Turn the Page)

Place of Security." Bible Bowl Quiz winners included:

AFC: First place, Beaverdam; second place, Shiloh; and hird place, Elm Grove.

YFA: First place, Beaverdam; and second place, Pine Level.

1984 Bible Bowl Quiz will be taken from Genesis, Chapters 1-13 (King James Version), omitting Chapter 10. The memory verses are as follows.

Chapter 1:26, 31; Chapter 2:2, 17, (21 and 22); Chapter 3:4, 15, 21; Chapter 4:25; Chapter 5:2, 24; Chapter 6:(5 and 6) 8, 22; Chapter 7:1; Chapter 9:13; Chapter 11:9; Chapter 12:(2 and 3).

Upcoming Events to Be Held at Ayden Church

Revival services will be held at Ayden Church, Ayden, September 19-23. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Robert May. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special music each night.

On Sunday, September 25, the church will have its annual homecoming with a covered dish lunch at 12:10 and a gospel sing at 1 p.m. featuring the Haddock family.

All friends and former members of the church are invited to attend.

Hickory Grove Church Announces Revival

Revival services will be held September 19-23, at Hickory Grove Church, Route 2, Robersonville. The time of the services is 7:45 p.m. The pastor is the Rev. Charles Branch. Guest evangelists include five different speakers for the week. A nursery will be provided nightly. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Tarboro Church Announces Upcoming Events

First Church of Tarboro and their pastor, Dr. O. B. Jones, cordially invite everyone to their revival services beginning September 19, and continuing through September 23. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special music nightly. The Rev. James Joyner from Kenly will be the guest evangelist.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, September 25. Lunch will be served at noon and the public is cordially invited to attend.

Eastern District Women to Meet

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held at Faith Mission, Leland, on September 22, 1983. The theme will be "We Can Do All Things Through Christ." The Scripture is taken from Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration
9:55—Piano Prelude, Mrs. Nina G. Register, Pianist
10:00—Opening Hymn, 96, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"
—Welcome, Mrs. Mary Heath, President, Woman's Auxiliary of Faith Mission
—Response
—Special Music
—Devotions, Mrs. Janet Brown, 1983-84 "Miss" Camp Vandemere
—President's Remarks, Mrs. Rena Kirk
—Business Session
—Hymn, 111, "He Keeps Me Singing"
—Offering and Prayer, Host Church
—Pen Award, Mrs. Willie Marie Padgett, Pen Chairman, Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary
—Reports: Our Denominational Enterprises—What's Happening? What Can We Do?
1. Free Will Baptist Press, Miss Velma Morris, treasurer, Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary
2. Superannuation, Mrs. Hazel Stilley
3. Youth, Mrs. Aileen Hawley, youth chairman, Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary
11:25—Preparation Hymn for Worship, 75, "He's a Wonderful Saviour to Me"
11:30—Special Music, the Rev. David Charles Hansley, pastor of Wilmington Church
—Convention Message, Mrs. Deborah King, Missions Chairman, Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary
—Hymn of Dedication, 124, " 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"
—Benediction and Blessing
—Announcements, Host Pastor
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Chorus Time with Mrs. Deborah King
—Prayer
—Memorial Services, Mrs. Elizabeth Hansley, former youth chairman of State Free Will Baptist Convention
—More Denominational Reports
4. Foreign Missions, Mrs. Sandra Jones, secretary, Foreign Missions board
5. Children's Home, Mrs. Jeannette Lefler, Children's Home Representative Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary
6. Cragmont, Mrs. Alice Barrow
7. Mount Olive College, Mrs. Happy Taylor
8. Camp Vandemere, Mrs. Nina Grace Register
9. Retirement Homes
10. Home Missions, Mrs. Mary Heath
—Miscellaneous Reports and Business
—Closing Hymn, 106, "Jesus Saves"
2:00—Adjourn

Pianist, Mrs. Nina Grace Register
Song Leader, Mrs. Deborah King
Ushers, Host Church

Upcoming Events at Faith Church

On Sunday, October 2, at 6 p.m. the Mitchell family will be at Faith Church, Route 2, Four Oaks. This is a family that loves God and enjoys singing praises to His name. Everyone is invited to come and worship in song.

Revival services will begin on October 3, for the week, at the church. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Hubert Stanley, pastor of the church, will be bringing the message each evening. Prayer room will be open each evening at 7:15 p.m. with the youth in charge. The youth are doing a good job for the Lord. It is most important to be at each

prayer service. The pastor and membership invite everyone to attend.

Pleasant Plain Church Observes Pastor Appreciation Day

Linwood Griffin presents a gift to the pastor, the Rev. Ernie Price.

On August 14, 1983, Pleasant Plain Church, Selma, Route 2, observed pastor appreciation day to honor its pastor, the Rev. Ernie Price.

Mr. Price has been pastor of the church since March 1, 1980, and the church has grown spiritually and financially, and several new members have been added to the roll.

The sanctuary has been completely renovated and the loan has already been paid.

Following the services a meal was served in the fellowship hall with many members of the church, friends, and members of his family attending the services.

During and after the meal many members of the church expressed their love and appreciation to Mr. Price for the work he is doing at Pleasant Plain. A love offering was presented to the pastor as a token of appreciation from the church.

They solicit prayers for the pastor and church as they continue the ministry at Pleasant Plain.

(Continued on Page 19)

Home Missions

HAYMOUNT MISSION ORGANIZES INTO A CHURCH

Haymount Church

On May 9, 1976, under the leadership of the Rev. Taylor Hill and a few dedicated Christians, a new mission began in Fayetteville, North Carolina. It was endorsed by both Eastwood Church (the mother church) and the Cape Fear Conference. The location was in the Rev. Taylor Hill's office at 1209 Arsenal Avenue and was named Happiness Free Will Baptist Mission. From the very beginning, God richly blessed the mission. It was self-supporting and many souls were coming to know Jesus.

In January of 1978, the mission purchased a building. This building was located on the lot behind the mission sanctuary and was to be used for Sunday school rooms and fellowships. The mission's name was then changed to Haymount Free Will Baptist Mission.

On May 6, 1979, the mission purchased the office building from Mr. Hill and remodeled it into a beautiful sanctuary for the Lord.

Mr. Hill served the mission faithfully until his death in December of 1982. The Rev. Dean Kennedy then became its pastor, another dedicated and faithful servant of our Lord.

On August 21, 1983, Haymount Free Will Baptist Mission was organized into an Original Free Will Baptist Church. From its beginning, in seven years, the mission has contributed $10,858.59 to local charity, helping the needy in our community. Also it has put back into the Free Will Baptist denominational enterprises $15,723.44. All of this was done over and above its local operating expenses. We have never had a financial problem; thanks and glory be to God for people that give to God's work.

BAKER FAMILY ARRIVES SAFELY

Baker family arrive

The Baker family would like to express our thanks to each of you. Your love, hospitality, support and prayers enabled us to have a very successful period of deputation. God through you has made possible our return to the Philippines in accordance with His will. We love and appreciate each of you so very much.

We had a good trip that took us through the following airports: Raleigh/Durham; Dallas/Fort Worth; Los Angeles; Anchorage, Alaska; Seoul, Korea; Hong Kong; Manila, Philippines; and finally to Puerto Princesa City, Palawan. We had welcomed stopovers in Los Angeles and Hong Kong. Of course we had to spend a few days in Manila for paper work.

We were met at the Puerto Princesa Airport with a beautiful banner, a large group of old friends and many new believers. The handshakes, smiles and greetings were so precious. We went directly to PBI where Brother Charles Barnard and the churches had prepared a welcome home program. After the program we enjoyed many of our favorite Philippine foods.

Many of you promised to pray especially for our travel and return to the Philippines. We can never thank you enough. Here are two answers to your prayers.

The stopover in Hong Kong had been so refreshing for the family. But at the Hong Kong Airport we were in for a shock. The authorities refused to honor the baggage limit for international flights which is two bags per passenger. They said we must pay about one hundred dollars excess baggage. We began to pray. After going to several officials and offices, God intervened. We had to pay only twenty dollars. Praise the Lord.

We arrived at our home in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan, on June 28. After ten days of travel, most of our clothes were dirty. The electric water pump was broken. The next day with the Lord's help we got it going. The water was muddy but it was flowing. It worked good for about half a day then stopped. I went to check and found a strong odor of burning electric motor wires. A twelve-inch long lizard had decided to look inside the electric motor while it was running. Of course the motor had ground about half of him up before stalling. Would the electric motor be ruined? We prayed. The pump motor had to be dismantled to get the lizard out. God is so wonderful. It worked when reassembled.

Leaving plane

In each occasion as we pray, we realize that your prayers are joined with our prayers as they go before the throne of the Living God. Thank you for standing with us.

The hearts of the Baker family are filled with thanksgiving, joy and peace. God has allowed us to come again to our adopted home and to a people whom we love. We give ourselves afresh to Him to be used in this place for His honor and glory.

The Baker Family
Fred, Linda,
Kim and Stevie

Welcome banner

CONTRIBUTIONS
JULY 1983
RECEIPTS

ALBEMARLE

Sidney	$ 16.88
St. Paul	20.00
Mount Zion (Roper)	35.40
Total	$ 72.28

CAPE FEAR

Goldsboro, First	$ 440.00
Haymount Mission	13.04
Hopewell	104.04
Palmer Memorial	94.17
Shady Grove	500.00
Total	$ 1,151.25

CENTRAL

Aspen Grove Woman's Auxiliary	$ 10.00
Free Union (Walstonburg)	480.00
Fourth Union District	12.56
Friendship (Walstonburg)	50.00
Friendship (Farmville)	200.00
Greenville, First	180.00
Greenville Christian Service Woman's Auxiliary	10.00
Gum Swamp	300.00
Hickory Grove Sunday School	40.00
Hugo	176.00
Ormondsville	100.00
Otter's Creek	30.00
Rocky Mount, First	175.00
Rose of Sharon	50.00
Saratoga	85.00
Tarboro, First	250.00
Third Union District	50.00
Winterville Woman's Auxiliary	20.00
Total	$ 2,218.56

EASTERN

Bethel	$ 50.00
Faith Ladies Auxiliary	2.00
Faith Original Mission	10.00
Juniper Chapel	47.19
Kinston, First	320.00
Long Ridge	150.00
Macedonia	100.00
Moseley's Creek	100.00
Mount Zion (Vandemere)	25.00
Piney Grove	50.00
Rooty Branch	75.00
Saints Delight	150.00
Verona	150.00
Welcome Home	20.00
Whaley's Chapel	100.00
Total	$ 1,349.19

WESTERN

Little Rock	$ 62.45
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Spring Hill	50.00
St. Mary's (Kenly)	415.79
Unity	31.36
Total	$ 659.60

OTHERS

Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt	$ 100.00
Verena P. Johnson	200.00
St. Cloud, First (Florida)	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Willem Van der Plas	100.00
Total	$ 405.00

TOTAL:

General Fund/Building Fund	$ 5,855.88
Conference and Retreat	10,666.00
Cragmont Club	1,510.00
Miscellaneous	36.55
Store	3,441.09
Total	$21,509.52

MISCELLANEOUS INCOME

Insurance Check	$ 21.00
Food bought-Crumpler	15.55
Total	$ 36.55

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries	$ 4,812.46
Utilities	2,121.93
Food	7,701.75
Sundry	1,606.88
Office	105.38
Store	1,442.66
Taxes	1,379.56
Insurance	1,453.50
Maintenance and Repair	1,064.26
Gas	144.25
Miscellaneous	8,862.52
Total	$30,695.15

MISCELLANEOUS DISBURSEMENTS

Bad Check	$ 90.00
Emergency Room Treatment	56.00
Lens for camera	93.57
Roll-a-way Bed (Motel)	84.00
Emergency Room Treatment	110.00
Tickets for GYC II	200.00
Repay Petty Cash	166.24
Emergency Room Treatment	92.00
Purchase of fans	90.71
Emergency Room Treatment	63.00
Transfer of Funds to Cragmont Corporation	6,000.00
Retirement for John for 1982	600.00
Emergency Room Treatment	100.00
Lime Spreader	52.00
Payment on Carpet	1,000.00
Emergency Room Treatment	65.00
Total	$ 8,862.52

AMERICANS WILL "LET THE WORD SPEAK" IN THIS YEAR OF THE BIBLE

NEW YORK, NY (ABS)—Americans are being encouraged to "let the Word speak" to friends and neighbors in 1983, the year President Reagan has proclaimed Year of the Bible.

A number of novel "starter" suggestions are now on the way from the American Bible Society to help 439,000 churches, Christian educators, hospitals and chaplains come up with their own new and exciting ideas to share Scriptures locally and nationwide wherever they are needed most.

Suggestions include giving Scripture as a thoughtful way to say "God bless you" to newlyweds and neighborhood newcomers, slipping a New Testament into a food basket for the needy, creating goodwill among business customers with a Bible at Thanksgiving or Christmas, and recognizing excellence in religious education classes with Scripture awards.

ABS offers a wide range of Scriptures for millions of Americans to reach out meaningfully in celebration of this Year of the Bible.

Especially helpful is a new Selection from Scripture under the title "God Speaks," and another Selection called "One Nation Under God." Already in great demand are newly published $2 Bibles and 65-cent New Testaments in both the Good News and King James versions.

The Year of the Bible, which President Reagan proclaimed in February following a joint resolution by the House and Senate, is encouraging Americans to recognize both the formative influence that the Bible has had on our nation, and the "national need to study and apply the teachings of Holy Scripture."

Bible Society officials expect the demand for Scriptures to rise dramatically as churches throughout the country prepare for the annual observance in this Year of the Bible.

In view of the anticipated demand, ABS is advising churches to send their orders in as soon as possible.

Most churches will celebrate Bible Sunday on November 20, but others are planning to do so on a nearby Sunday.

Bible Sunday, introduced in this country by the American Bible Society in 1900, can trace

(Continued on Page 19)

Mount Olive College

COLLEGE HALL INVESTMENT ACCOUNT
An Investment Opportunity for Individuals and Churches

College Hall is an athletic-convention center currently under construction at Mount Olive College. It is the flagship of progress in the development of Mount Olive into a four-year college, beginning with the addition of the junior year in 1984.

Completion of construction is now planned for January, 1984—four months **ahead** of schedule. The cost of construction, furniture, equipment, architectural fees, and paving will be approximately $3 million.

Financing will consist of approximately $1.1 million in College funds and $1.9 million in loans. These loans are through bonds and promissory notes and will be repaid over an eight-year period (1983-1991) from gifts and pledge payments by friends of the College, Free Will Baptists, alumni, foundations and area business and industrial firms. No government funds are involved in College Hall.

To complete the financing of College Hall, the College needs only $350,000. The Board of Trustees has authorized the issuance of promissory notes, backed by the general assets of the College, for this purpose. Individuals and churches can receive an attractive interest return on their investment and assist the College at the same time. Loan commitments are needed now, but deposits may be made any time through January, 1984. Interest will begin with the date of deposit.

Interest is payable semi-annually or it may be compounded and paid upon maturity. Loans may be for a period of one to eight years. The longer the loan, the higher the interest rate will be.

SIMPLE Interest Promissory Notes

Simple Interest Rate: 10.5% Payable Semi-annually
(April 1 and October 1)
Length of Investment: 1 to 8 years

Amount Invested	**$25,000**	**$10,000**	**$5,000**	**$1,000**	**$500**
Semi-Annual Return	$1,312.50	$525.00	$262.50	$52.50	$26.25

COMPOUND INTEREST PROMISSORY NOTES

Compound Interest Rates (Compounded Semi-Annually)

Amount Invested	**Year**	**$25,000**	**$10,000**	**$5,000**	**$1,000**	**$500**
		COMPOUND GROWTH CHART: 10.5% FOR INVESTMENTS 1 TO 5 YEARS				
10.5%	3½	$35,768.00	$14,307.20	$7,153.60	$1,430.72	$ 715,36
(10.77% annual	4	37,645.83	15,058.33	7,529.17	1,505.83	752.92
yield)	4½	39,622.23	15,848.89	7,924.45	1,584.89	792.45
	5	41,720.40	16,680.96	8,340.48	1,668.10	834.05
		COMPOUND GROWTH CHART: 11.0% FOR INVESTMENTS 5½ TO 6½ YEARS				
11.0%	5½	$45,052.30	$18,020.92	$ 9,010.46	$1,802.09	$ 901.05
(11.3% annual	6	47,530.18	19,012.07	9,506.04	1,901.21	950.60
yield)	6½	50,144.34	20,057.73	10,028.87	2,005.77	1,002.89
		COMPOUND GROWTH CHART: 11.5% FOR INVESTMENTS 7 TO 8 YEARS				
11.5%	7	$54,684.62	$21,873.85	$10,936.93	$2,187.38	$1,093.69
(11.83% annual	7½	57,828.99	23,131.59	11,565.80	2,313.16	1,156.58
yield)	8	61,154.15	24,461.66	12,230.83	2,446.17	1,223.08

COLLEGE HALL LOAN

I (We) am interested in making an investment(s) which will mature as follows:

$ _____ to mature in _____ years.

I (We) would like the interest:

_____ Paid semi-annually. _____ Compounded (paid at maturity).

My (Our) funds will be available:

Amount	**Date**
$ _____	Enclosed Herewith
$ _____	_____
$ _____	_____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home _____; Business _____

Social Security No. _____

Return To: W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365
Phone 919 (658-2502)

COLLEGE GETS NEW ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR

Dianne B. Riley, director of Admissions, announced recently that Mr. Don Earl Hargrove is the new Admissions Counselor at Mount Olive College. He joined the staff which consists of Associate Director Wesley Beddard and Administrative Assistant Ruth Allen.

Don's main target areas for recruiting students will be the counties of Duplin, Sampson, Wilson, Lenoir, and other surrounding counties, plus the state of South Carolina.

A graduate of Mount Olive College class of 1979, he completed his studies at East Carolina University. His major area was Sociology and his minor, Science Education. He received his B.A. degree in 1982.

Don is currently a member of the Mount Olive Kiwanis Club, North Carolina Association of Rescue Squads, Boy Scouts of America, and National Eagle Scout Association. He is a graduate of the North Carolina Rescue Institute and the North Carolina Rescue College. He has had advanced Cardiac Life Support Training and is an Emergency Medical Technician with the state of North Carolina.

His most recent employment was with Motor Parts and Machine Service in Mount Olive.

FINAL PLANNING SESSION FOR CHURCH DINNERS

The final planning session to be held to complete the planning for the 1983 Church Dinners for Mount Olive College will be as follows:

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties, Monday, September 19, 7:30 p.m., Oak Grove Church near Newton Grove.

1983 SCHEDULE FOR COLLEGE DINNERS

The dates for the Church Dinners for Mount Olive College have been scheduled for the following counties.

Lenoir County, Saturday, October 1, 7 p.m., King's Restaurant, Kinston, A. Stanley Jenkins and Adrian Grubbs, Co-Chairmen. Goal $7,310

Edgecombe-Halifax Counties, Monday, October 3, 7:30 p.m., First Church, Tarboro, Rufus Harrell, Chairman. Goal $5,800

Jones County, Tuesday, October 4, 7 p.m., King's Restaurant, Kinston, Mrs. Mildred Jenkins, Chairman. Goal $2,550

Nash County, Wednesday, October 5, 7 p.m., Middlesex Elementary School, Middlesex, Lester Duncan, Chairman. Goal $4,150

Onslow, New Hanover, Brunswick Counties, Thursday, October 6, 7 p.m., Folkstone Church, O. B. Taylor, Chairman. Goal $2,175

Beaufort County, Saturday, October 8, 7 p.m., Chocowinity High School, Chocowinity, Billy Gurkin, Chairman. Goal $7,315

Greene County, Monday, October 10, 7 p.m., West Greene School, Snow Hill, George Harrison, Chairman. Goal $9,850

Wayne County, Tuesday, October 25, 7 p.m., Mount Olive College Auditorium, Mount Olive, Colby Benton, Chairman. Goal $18,000

Duplin County, Saturday, October 29, 6 p.m., East Duplin High School near Beulaville, William D. Thigpen, Chairman. Goal $10,000

Wilson County, Tuesday, November 1, 7 p.m., Beddingfield High School near Wilson, James B. Hunt Sr., Chairman. Goal $18,200

Carteret County, Saturday, November 5, 6:30 p.m., East Carteret High School near Beaufort, David Ward, Chairman. Goal $8,300

Johnston-Wake Counties, Monday, November 7, 7 p.m., Everett Chapel Church (Spiritual Life Building), Clayton, (Chairman to be announced). Goal $25,200

Craven County, Monday, November 14, 7 p.m., West Craven Middle School near New Bern, Miss Marice DeBruhl, Chairman. Goal $11,275

Pamlico County, Saturday, November 19, 6 p.m., Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, M. N. (Tom) Caroon, Chairman. Goal $6,200

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

If you want to know where a church's priorities are, then look at where the money goes. Where the church's treasure is, there is its heart also. If this is true, then where is the church's heart when it comes to Christian education?

It seems to me that the church has its priorities mixed up and its heart in the wrong place when thousands of dollars can be spent on the outside appearance of the church building each year and so little for what goes on inside it, especially in Christian education! Our children go to public schools with some of the best in educational and audio-visual equipment and resources. Walk through most Sunday school classes and you'll be lucky if you find an old record player, which probably doesn't even work!

One of the most common complaints I hear from Sunday school teachers is this lack of tools for teaching. Many feel, and rightly so, that the church, if it asks them to teach, should provide adequate resources and equipment to do their jobs. How frustrating and demotivating it is to try to do any job without the proper tools. Only God knows how many dedicated teachers take money out of their own tight budgets to purchase resources. Brethren, this should not be!

What can we do? Several things. First, having a separate treasury for the church school and the church often means that the church school barely has enough to get by. Much of the money collected in the church school is often sent to various denominational enterprises which are already being supported in the church budget. Is this not needless and wasteful duplication? One budget would solve a lot of problems and also provide adequate funds for acquiring necessary educational equipment and resources. Second, each church school should make a study of its particular needs in regard to educational equipment. Ask the teachers what they need and would like to have. Be knowledgeable

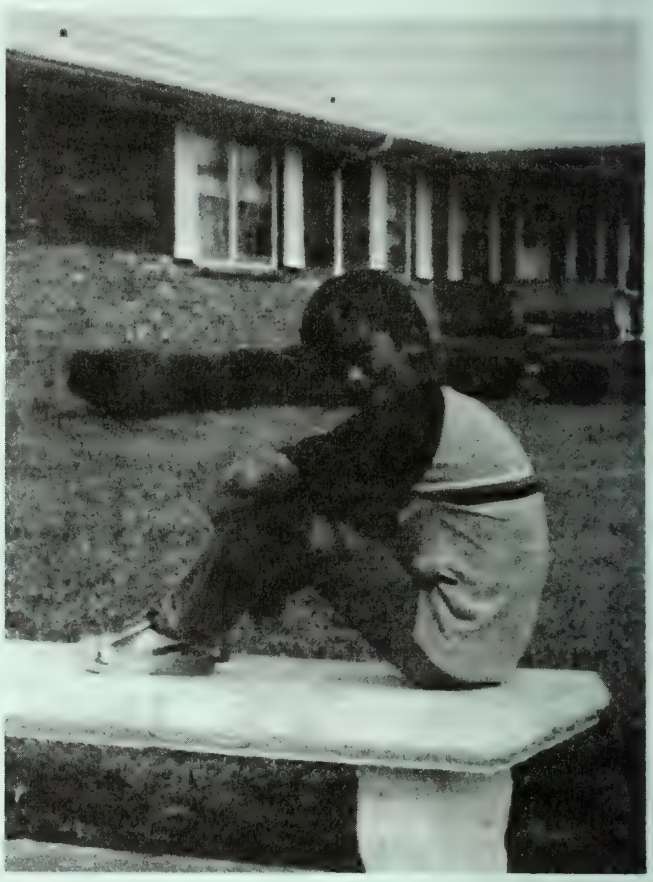
(Continued on Page 19)

AN INVITATION TO VISIT

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to visit the facilities, children, and staff of our Free Will Baptist Child Care Ministry. Maybe you have visited in the past years or maybe you have never been to the Home. We would invite you as an individual, family, youth group, auxiliary, or church to come and meet firsthand children whom we serve and the staff that serves them. Come and take a tour of the campus or join us for a worship service.

Our ministry to children is a vital ministry. We can be very proud that God has granted to us this responsibility to care for children. The Free Will Baptist Children's Home is recognized across this state by many agencies and organizations as a Home reaching out to help meet the needs of children and providing quality child care.

As you visit the campus, you can see God's ministry through Free Will Baptists touching individual boys and girls.



Not long ago the question was asked, "What are the reasons for group care?" There are many and I will list a few. There is the need for structure and limit-setting that leads to predictability and continuity in the lives of our children. The children need Christian adult models and relationships to give example and guidance. There is the need for a neutral setting in which to work on family relationships. Many times if it were not for group care, siblings would be unable to stay together. There are the needs for special medical, educational and psychological resources separately or together to help a child become what his/her God given potential is.

If you would like to visit the Home as a group, please call us at 235-2161 and it would be our privilege to set a date and time to share with you firsthand your Child Care Ministry.

Bobby R. Taylor
Executive Director

VISITORS FROM BETHANY CHURCH

Mr. and Mrs. Rex Wainright, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Rouse, and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Manning.

On Sunday, August 28, members from the Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, visited the Home to bring towels, blankets and linens. They also brought a contribution in the amount of $253 to be used for linens. While on campus they toured the facilities and visited in the cottages.

We appreciate not only their visit but also all the members of Bethany Church that gave the linens and contributed toward the gift.

OUR CHILD CARE MINISTRY

PURPOSE: To provide residential care for orphaned, dependent, neglected and abused, undisciplined and status offender children; to work with the family toward the goal of working through the family's problems and eventually reuniting the family.

SERVICES: (Admission ages 0-15—Children older than 15 can be admitted by approval of our Admissions and Discharge Committee.)

1. *Group Care*—Admission age: 5-15
2. *Family Clarification*—Admission age: 5-15—Time limited, emphasis on child's relationship to his/her family rather than on behavioral change.
3. *Supplemental Parenting*—Admission age: 5-15—Families are involved with child, but circumstances make it impossible or unwise for the child to live full-time at home.
4. *Preparation for Independence* (Projection date—10-01-83)—Admission age: 17-19. To help the child develop life skills, experience in making decisions, move to self-sufficiency.
5. *Foster Care*—for children under the age of 5. Foster care may be sought for older children, depending on their individual needs.
6. *Family Services*—offers child counseling and offers parents guidance and direction in reaching set goals.

If we can be of service to you or to anyone in your church or community, please let us know.

EASTERN DISTRICT FALL YOUTH CONVENTION

The Eastern District Fall Youth Convention will be September 17, at Sandy Plain Church, Beulaville. All youth groups are encouraged to attend a day full of exciting surprises such as "Let's Trade Your Salvation," based on the game show "Let's Make a Deal." Our district officers are working hard on this skit so you will enjoy the humor but realize the seriousness of trusting Jesus Christ.

Dwight Hawley will discuss Christian music followed by a concert of contemporary Christian music featuring CROSS. There will also be a special program for those ten and under by Deborah King.

Please remember to bring your $5 registration per youth group. There are many expenses involved in a convention.

Lunch will be served by churches of the Third Union. There will be no afternoon session.

Aileen Hawley, *Youth Chairman*

GEORGIA YOUTH ATTEND SUMMER CAMP

by JoAnn Pennington

Summer Camp for the Paul Palmer Conference Youth from the Free Will Baptist Churches in Georgia was held July 17-22 at Norman Park Baptist Assembly in Moultrie, Georgia. This year we had 48 campers and counselors.

David Still of Zion Church, Blakely, Georgia, was the Director and JoAnn Pennington of Mount Olive College was the Music Director. Other counselors included the Rev. and Mrs. Chester Pelt, Mrs. Laura Hudson, Mrs. Bernice Still, Mrs. Wylene McDonald, Mrs. Evelyn Powell, Mrs. Sybil Still, Mrs. Phyllis Reddick, Mr. and Mrs. Bracken and Ellen Wiley.

Our theme was "Jesus: Lord of Promises" with a special emphasis on witnessing and tithing. Each camper gave his tithe out of the money he spent on snacks during the week. They decided that this tithe would go toward sending a child from the Children's Home to Cragmont.

Activities for the week included swimming, softball, basketball, films, and fun and games.

During the week the Spirit of the Lord was felt. On Thursday night the campers presented programs on "Promises" and "Witnessing." The Rev. Chester Pelt delivered a short message and there were at least six who accepted Christ as their Saviour.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Scripture Reading—John 11:45—12:22

WHAT IS SIN?

Man calls it an *accident;* God calls it an *abomination.*

Man calls it a *blunder;* God calls it a *blindness.*

Man calls it a *defect;* God calls it a *disease.*

Man calls it a *chance;* God calls it a *choice.*

Man calls it an *error;* God calls it an *enmity.*

Man calls it a *fascination;* God calls it a *fatality.*

Man calls it an *infirmity;* God calls it an *iniquity.*

Man calls it a *luxury;* God calls it a *leprosy.*

Man calls it a *liberty;* God calls it *lawlessness.*

Man calls it a *trifle;* God calls it a *tragedy.*

Man calls it a *mistake;* God calls it a *madness.*

Man calls it a *weakness;* God calls it *willfulness.*

Would you judge the lawfulness of a pleasure? Take this rule: Whatever weakens your reason, impairs the tenderness of your conscience, obscures your vision of God, or takes away the relish of spiritual things or increases the authority of your body over your mind, that is sin.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Scripture Reading—John 12:23—13:38

A HARMLESS TIGER?

During the rainy season in India, a valley near a populous community flooded. The natives fled to the highest peak. As they waited for the waters to subside, they saw a huge Bengal tiger swimming toward them. As the tiger neared the natives they became terrified! Often children and adults in India are killed and eaten by tigers. When the tiger reached the peak where the natives were, it showed no sign of molesting them. Instead, it lay down peaceably. The raging waters had frightened the ferocity out of him, but an English army officer, knowing the nature of a tiger, sent a bullet through its head. The natives naively asked, "Why did you kill it? The tiger was not going to hurt us." "You're wrong," snapped the officer. "Its true nature was only temporarily subdued by fright. When its old nature would have asserted itself, it would have surely pounced upon some of us!"

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter (Isaiah 5:20).

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Scripture Reading—John 14, 15

I KNOW HOW FAR TO GO!

The scene of this awesome tragedy was in Georgia at Stone Mountain, the largest boulder in the world. Atop the mountain, a young man walked unsuspectingly along, oblivious of the gradual and almost imperceptible downward curvature of the domelike mountain. Suddenly he became aware of the fact that he was powerless to retrace his steps to safety. He had gone to the point of no return. Frantically he cried, "Help! Help!" His piteous plea was to no avail. Horrified spectators saw him hurtle to his death below.

The shores of time are strewn with moral and physical wrecks whose vain boast was, "I know how far to go! I know where to draw the line!" They didn't, however.

Let him that thinketh that he standeth take heed lest he fall.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Scripture Reading—John 16, 17

ABHOR THAT WHICH IS EVIL!

A woman of wealth wanted to hire a coachman. Three persons applied for the job. When she spoke to the applicants, she asked each the same question: "Tell me, if you drove my coach around a steep corner with a precipice on one side, how near could you go to the precipice?" The first applicant said, "I think I could keep within twelve inches of the precipice and we would be perfectly safe!" The next man said, "I could take you a hair's breadth and we would still be safe!" The third man said, "Madam, if I'm going to get this job and you want me as your coachman, I'm telling you that when we go around that corner, I'm keeping as far from that precipice as I can!" He was employed.

Christians should avoid all appearance of evil instead of doing a balancing act on the line of demarcation between good and evil: "Abstain from all appearance of evil" (1 Thessalonians 5:22).

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Scripture Reading—John 18

INSENSITIVENESS TO SIN

A little girl in London held up her broken wrist and said, "Look, Mommy, my hand is bent the wrong way!" There were no tears in her eyes. She felt no pain whatever. That was when she was four years old.

When she was six, her parents noticed that she was walking with a limp. A doctor discovered that the girl had a fractured thigh. Still she felt no pain.

The girl is now fourteen years old. She is careful now, but occasionally looks at blisters and burns on her hands and wonders, "How did this happen?" She is insensitive to pain! Medical specialists are baffled by the case. It is called ganglineuropathy.

There is another insensitiveness which is deadlier and more dangerous—insensitiveness to sin!

Paul said of this malady: "Having their consciences seared as with a hot iron" (1 Timothy 4:2).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Scripture Reading—John 19

A DEADLY GUEST

A traveler in Ceylon was being entertained in the hut of a missionary. As they ate dinner, a deadly cobra noiselessly slithered into the room and coiled itself about the ankle of the host. "Quickly and quietly place a bowl of milk on the deerskin beside my chair," said the missionary to the servant. He knew that a cobra likes milk above everything else. The servant tiptoed for the milk. Any hasty movement or unusual noise would have meant sure death to the missionary. All sat like statues! Presently the cobra uncoiled itself and glided toward the bowl of milk, where it was killed.

Sin is a deadlier guest than a cobra. It is the enemy of our souls.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

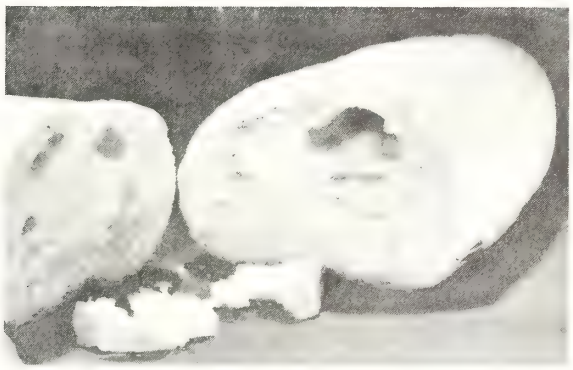
Scripture Reading—John 20

ONLY SIN SEPARATES FROM GOD

An apparently sincere seeker for truth came to a minister and said, "There is so much about the Bible that I don't understand. It contains so many difficulties. For instance, where did Cain get his wife?" "Yes, there are some things in the Bible whose full meaning God's children will not know until they awaken with the likeness of Christ in Heaven. However, if I show you where Cain got his wife, will you renounce your sins and ask Christ to come into your heart and save you?" The man would not commit himself. The minister made investigation. He learned that it was not Cain's wife who was keeping the man from God, but some other man's wife!

But your iniquities have separated between you and your god, and your sins have hid his face, that he will not hear (Isaiah 59:2).

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.



LOOKING AT SHERRON ACRES CHURCH, DURHAM

(Excerpts from the diary of the late John D. Currie)

January 19, 1941—Morning Service

Service opened with a long spiritual prayer by the pastor in behalf of the many sick with flu throughout the community. He said he had visited at least 100 sick during the week. Afterwards a wonderful sermon was delivered. A very large crowd was present considering so much sickness. There were about 130 present.

January 19, 1941—Evening Service

There was a 3 p.m. baptizing at Edgemont Baptist Church. Eight were baptized by the pastor.

Evening service opened promptly with about 170 present. This service marked the Rev. Fred Rivenbark's 4th year as pastor of our church and about 190th sermon to be preached in this church. At this time about 150 new members had been added to the church. The pastor preached a wonderful sermon with 7 going to the altar.

Sunday School Lesson

For September 18

GOD OF INSPIRED PROPHETS

Lesson Text: Deuteronomy 18: 15-22; Amos 5:21-24; Micah 6:8

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 18:18

I. INTRODUCTION

Two weeks ago we noted that a homemade dress tells us something about the person who made it. Tiny, precise stitches say the seamstress is a careful and conscientious worker. Then if she gives the dress to some poverty-stricken orphan, we know she is generous and concerned about others. Learning in this way is like learning about God from His acts in history. But this is not all. God can tell us more in words than we can ever learn without hearing Him. So through the centuries, as need has arisen, God has spoken in words. Usually He has done this through inspired prophets.

Prophecy goes far back in human history. Abraham is specifically called a prophet (Genesis 20:7), and Enoch prophesied long before that (Jude 14). Our text, however, brings us first to the time of Moses, about 1400 B.C. As he was about to die, he was reminding his people of their escape from Egypt, of their forty years in the desert, and of the laws God had given. Moses was God's prophet, and there were other prophets to come. Our text brings us also two samples of God's Word given through later prophets.

Amos did not start out in life to be a prophet. He was not trained for the task. He did not attend the school of the prophets. Instead, he was a small-time herdsman and farmer at Tekoa, a little town in the two-tribe kingdom of Judah. He was no doubt as surprised as anyone could be when God commissioned him to go to the king's own court in Israel and utter words of wrath and condemnation against the place. In the passage under consideration he drew a line between ritualism observed as habit or tradition, and the "pure and undefiled religion" that is pleasing to God.

Don Wakefield wrote this in the magazine *Together:* "In the desperate effort to be up-to-date, they [some religious leaders] have dressed Jesus in a grey flannel suit and smothered His spirit in the folds of conformity." To be oblivious of the cry for justice and righteousness is to be dead in God's sight. To go on grinding out religious observances while the poor are pleading for food, clothing, and shelter all about us is to deny the very purpose of God. We need to remove the artificial dams and get the river flowing and the mighty stream rushing down again. This has been the cry of our God through the ages.

A famous educator, who was fortunate enough to be a believer in God and a student of the Bible, went to a large university to lecture. His subject was "The Good Life." One skeptic in his audience arose and asked him, "What is good?" Without hesitation the speaker quoted from Micah 6:8, "He hath showed thee, O man, what is good." The man replied, "But suppose I don't see it?" The speaker answered, "Then I must conclude you are blind. Goodness consists of doing justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly. These are the three pillars in any worthwhile life. Without them life is a failure and a loss."

The rabbis counted over six hundred commandments that God bound upon men. Knowing that many persons could never memorize all of them, they engaged in constant controversy as to the irreducible minimum of the requirements of God. Micah was given the insight that a person's religious actions, prompted by anything except love and concern for God and one's fellowman, count for nothing in God's sight. If we would be pleasing to God, our outward acts must be motivated by inner godly attitudes.

Someone once defined Micah's statement as the mark of a perfect gentleman. Another said that Micah was drawing a verbal picture of the true Christian character. For sure he was revealing God's requirements for a godly life, and they have not been canceled since he first uttered the words.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

The following are some important issues and questions that arise out of this lesson which deserve some consideration and discussion:

A. What is the answer this lesson gives to the question, "How can we know God's will?"

B. Will the fact that God speaks through persons make any difference in how we listen to the minister's sermon this morning? If so, what?

C. Most of us are Christians today because God used other persons to speak to us. How might God use us to speak to others?

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A man cannot sit in church on Sunday scheming how he is going to outsmart and cheat a competitor on Monday, and at the same time worship God. The Israelites tried this and discovered that their worship was rejected by the Lord. Will yours be?—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

IN SEARCH OF

(Continued from Page 4)

Jews?" Jesus replied, "Yes, it is as you say."

Right question.

In the Luke account, Herod "asked Jesus question after question, but there was no reply."

Wrong questions.

When you have discovered your identity, you need to say little else. Toyohiko Kagawa, the Japanese Christian who spent his life working with and for the poor, was speaking at Princeton. When he finished his talk, one student said to another, "He didn't say much, did he?"

A woman sitting nearby leaned over and murmured, "When you're hanging on a cross, you don't have to say anything."

—Stan Mooneyham
President, World Vision International

Used by permission, *World Vision*, (May, 1982).

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 9)

Revival in Progress at Piney Grove Church

Revival is in progress through September 16, at Piney Grove Church, Beaufort County. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Robert May is the evangelist. There is being presented special singing each night. The pastor, the Rev. Walter Pollard, and the congregation invite the public to attend the remainder of these services.

Fall Bazaar at Little Creek Church

Little Creek Church Woman's Auxiliary is having a fall bazaar beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 17, at the church. Its location is Highway 903 at Scuffleton. Homemade items will be sold in a country shop, Christmas shop, bake and grocery store and flower shop. A rummage store will also be open. Lunch and snacks will be available.

CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 13)

about what is available. Some helpful resources would be a record player, cassette recorders with cassettes, an overhead projector, up-to-date maps, movable chalkboards, a filmstrip projector, a movie projector, filing cabinets to store materials, and especially a church library. Third, make sure that teachers are trained in how to use this equipment.

Now all of this may sound expensive. It is! But which is more expensive, the money it would take to purchase much needed teaching tools or frustrated teachers and all the lost opportunities to adequately teach the faith?

All of these teaching aids would by no means have to be purchased all at once. Make short and long range plans for purchasing them. Get what is most needed in your church first. Contact the Press in Ayden. There are knowledgeable persons there who can help you.

AMERICANS WILL "LET THE WORD SPEAK"

(Continued from Page 11)

its origins back more to the England of 400 years ago.

It was in his 1549 Prayer Book that Archbishop Cranmer introduced his famous prayer inspired by the 15th chapter of Paul's Letter to the Romans, drawing attention to the Scriptures and calling on the faithful to "read them, mark, learn and inwardly digest them."

For over a century and a half the American Bible Society has been providing people everywhere with God's Word, at prices they can afford, without doctrinal note or comment, and in the language they best understand.

NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to express my love and appreciation to each one who signed the card for my sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Cox, who was to have open heart surgery August 15. She had the surgery and lived about 45 minutes and went to be with the Lord. Thank you also for your prayers.

She never saw the card, but I took it to her family.

Thank you with love.

Alice Webster

ATTENTION EASTERN DISTRICT AUXILIARIES

There will be a district study course on Saturday, October 1, from 10 a.m. to noon, at St. Mary's Church in New Bern. The topic will be "Evangelism" using the book *Sharing God's Love* by Rinker-Griffith. The teacher will be Mrs. Lydia van der Plas, missionary appointee to India. This study course can count for the A-1 attempt. See you there!

Virginia Skinner,
Study Course Chairman

ATTENTION EASTERN DISTRICT WOMEN!

Women Auxiliary members of the Eastern District, it's time for the fall convention! Let's all make plans now to go to Faith Mission Church at Leland, North Carolina, September 22, 1983. This is a new church and I'm sure we're going to have a wonderful time. Ministers, we welcome you, also laymen, who are interested in what is going on among our women. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

Leland is west of Wilmington on Highway 74-76.

We'll see you there!

Mildred Jenkins
Vice President

SPECIAL INVITATION

You are cordially invited to attend "Minnie Chandler Day" on Sunday, September 18, 1983, at Bethany Church, Winterville. This special observance will take place during the 11 a.m. worship service.

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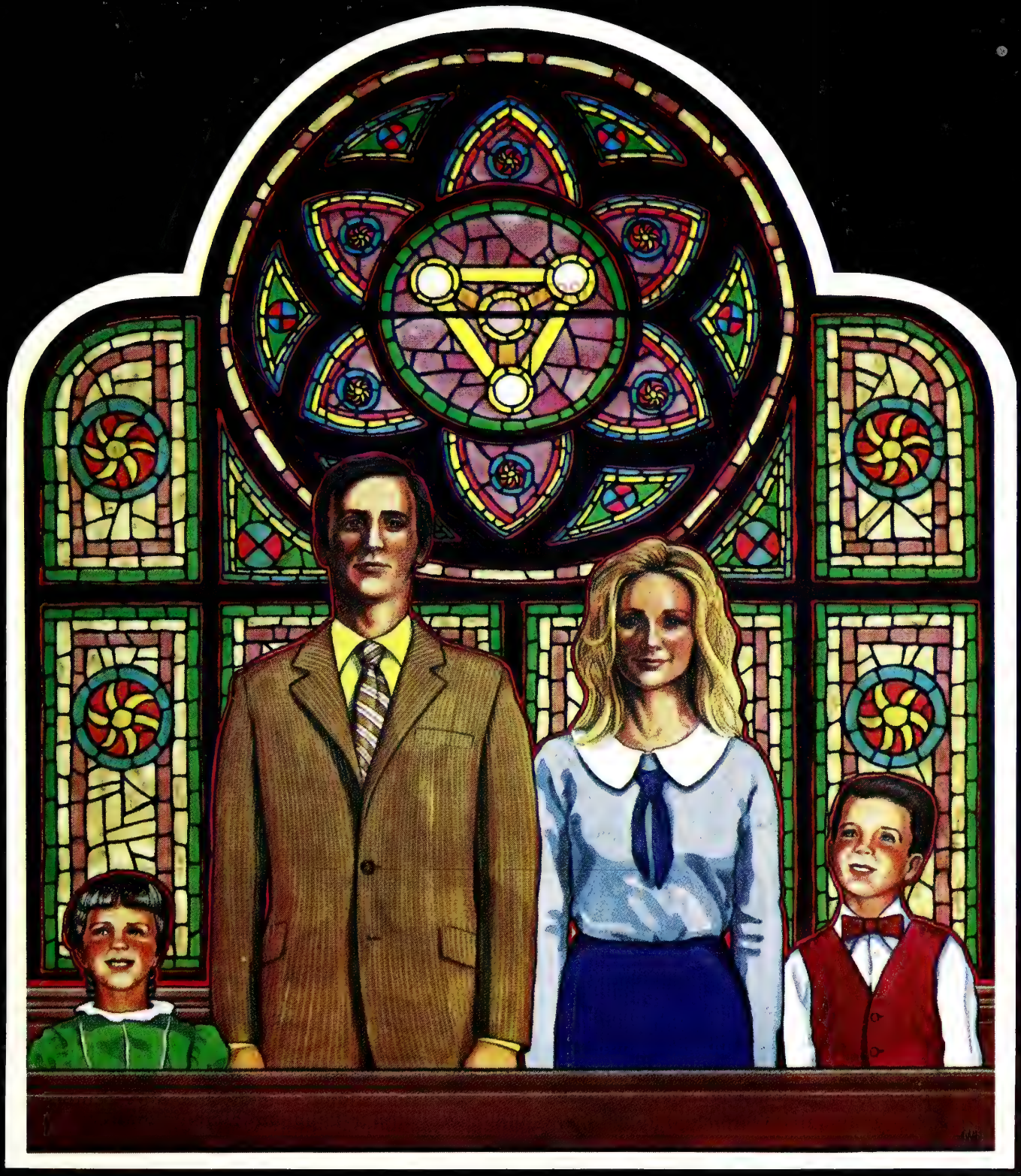

The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 98 Number 35

September 21, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

Measuring Up

While traveling the other day I saw a new sign which indicated that my destination was still "67 miles (112 kilometers)" away. It was the parenthesis that caught my eye, for it reminded me that there are those who are changing their ways of measuring things. They are conforming to the rest of the world and going metric. Just think, we could measure our waists in centimeters, not inches; we could buy our gasoline or diesel fuel by the liter instead of the gallon; and we could even remind ourselves that "a gram of prevention is worth half-a-kilogram of cure." (That just doesn't seem to make it.) Since I do not relish the thought of having to make these adjustments, if forced to do so I do hope my speedometer will carry a dual set of figures which will translate miles into kilometers.

At any rate, this reminds me that metric is not the only system of measuring with which we have problems. For example, consider success. We usually determine an individual's success by the measure of his money and/or power. If a man or woman has a large income or wields influence, we rate that person high on most success scales. We usually equate progress up the ladder of success with the accumulation of things. We would do well to follow the Apostle Paul's example, for he knew "how to be abased and how to abound." But it is neither the ups or the downs that are a measure of the quality of life. The secret is found in Paul's preface to this: "I have learned, in whatever state I am, therein to be content." Some people cannot be content even when all is looking up!

Dr. Richard Halverson, chaplain to the United States Senate, has offered another way of measuring. He simply asks, "What makes you mad?"

It's easy—too easy—to get mad. The question is: What causes us to become angry? The answer to this reveals an awful lot about a person.

So much of the time we get angry at the wrong things. A slight—real or imagined—can shatter marriages, destroy friendships, split churches. At the same time, though, we watch our fellowman be treated inhumanely and pass it off. Why then do we let our blood boil over a dry-cleaned suit that is not ready on time, a medium rare instead of a medium well-done steak, a Scripture lesson read from the wrong version? These are things over which we can really build up a head of steam.

If we could learn what things truly matter in life, if we could determine the things that are worth a throbbing jugular, we could channel our energies constructively. Who knows—it might help save our communities, our churches, our families.

How to measure success . . .

When to become upset . . .

As some Americans convert to the metric system, may we as Christians examine our methods of measurement . . .

They would change if we measured others by the measurements we use on ourselves.

PREACHER, KNOW THYSELF: AN ESSAY IN PASTORAL SELF-AWARENESS

submitted by De Wayne Eakes

Traditional homiletical method has assumed that there can exist in preaching a certain relative objectivity. Such objectivity is usually assumed to be possible through three means: (1) biblical exegesis,(2) doctrinal formulations, and (3) accurate understanding of the problems and needs of people. No one can really dispute the importance of these three elements. The responsibility and intelligent exegesis of the biblical passage is, of course, the very basis of the sermon. Clear understanding of the basic doctrines of the church certainly helps to interpret the Scriptures and the theology of the Christian faith. Finally, accurate "diagnosis" of the problems and needs of people gives the sermon a "point of contact" with the realities of human life.

These tools of sermon preparation most certainly are founded on object realities: Scripture, doctrinal formulations, and "human documents." There is, nonetheless, a subjective element that is often overlooked. That subjective element is that of the person him/herself who undertakes the task of the preacher. All of the "objective" elements of sermon preparation are "filtered" through the "person" that is the preacher.

The preacher characteristically shapes his/her interpretation of Scripture, doctrine, and persons into some form of theological statement about the relationship between God and humanity. The life experiences of the preacher will usually determine what theological concepts, ideas, and problems will emerge clearly and frequently in his/her preaching.

This concept of the dominance of particular theological motifs in an individual's preaching can be more clearly understood when the reader realizes that all persons generally respond to life within the circle of a particular set of ideas. In short, every person possesses a particular "theology." The following excerpt from a counseling session will demonstrate one such "theological perspective" held by a person.

(Turn the Page)

P1 *This is your hour, C. Where would you like to begin?*

C1 *It's my mother, R. Please don't tell me to put her in a nursing home, but, honestly, she's driving me crazy! I can't do anything anymore without her trying to make me feel guilty. She is just so demanding. She expects me to do everything for her, I can't leave the house anymore without her asking me to do this or that. It's really getting terrible.*

P2 *Your mother's behavior really makes you feel unhappy and burdened.*

C2 *Oh, you don't know what I go through with her. Every day it's something different with her—it's like a broken record, even my husband notices it. She tried to keep me from going places. She'll see my calendar and then she'll ask me what I'm doing when she knows what I'm doing the next week. When I tell her what I'm doing she'll say, "Well, what happens if I get sick, would you go to that meeting if your poor, old mother were sick?" Honestly, I get so sick of that I could scream!*

P3 *She hurts you and makes you feel guilty . . .*

C3 *And she doesn't really care about me!!! She's never really cared about me, even when I was small. She said that if she could have prevented it she wouldn't have had us. And she never liked me. She always said I was lazy.*

P4 *You're really angry at your mother.*

C4 *Oh, I guess I am, I know I shouldn't be, but what am I supposed to do—she drives me to my wit's end. What am I to do? The doctor said she could live 13 more years!!*

This brief excerpt from a pastoral counseling session reveals a woman whose life has been heavily marked by an ambiguous relationship with her mother. She clearly feels responsible for the care of her aging mother; however, she has tremendous difficulty coping with her mother's manipulative behavior. The result is genuine anger followed by guilt for feeling anger. No resolution to this ambiguous relationship is possible as long as the client continues to internalize her feelings. Her greatest problem is her unwillingness to confront her mother with her anger over the way that she has treated her. Thus, the angry and resulting guilt slowly reach debilitating levels that require professional intervention.

What might be this woman's theological interpretation of her life? The verbatim excerpt reveals that for her God is mostly an authoritarian figure who demands obedience to His commands. This God is one that does not allow her to express anger or disapproval. She tries to placate her god by being superficially pleasant and compliant; however, she can never honestly reveal how she feels. In short, the lady in this verbatim excerpt feels the wrath of God, but not the grace of God.

This short verbatim excerpt is a graphic example of how a person's developmental process profoundly influenced her theological perspective. Any person who attempts to preach is likewise influenced.

Given that all preachers are influenced by their own psycho-social development, is their "theological perspective," and the resultant preaching, a prisoner of what their mothers did to them? Yes and no. If a preacher remains largely unaware of how his/her personal development occurred, he/she will then be influenced by a set of factors that are largely out of his control. On the other hand, the preacher who wants to be aware of how his/her "personhood" effects his/her preaching can undertake the process of self-discovery. This is a process of self-examination that opens to the preacher access to the dynamics which shaped his/her life. In the course of such self-examination the preacher becomes aware of his/her blind spots and tender spots, and why they exist. The result is that he/she can better distinguish in his/her own preaching when he/she is addressing his/her needs and when he/she is addressing the needs of those to whom he/she is preaching.

This process of self-examination then is the fourth dynamic in sermon preparation. Self-examination continues through the preacher's life and can occur in both formal and informal ways. Clinical pastoral education has been one of the ways that preachers begin to better understand how their "personhood" effects their ministry and preaching. Other preachers have sought counseling and peer groups for such learning. Some have undertaken personal programs of reflection and self-analysis (such as advocated by Ira Progoff). These are just a few of the many ways that the preacher can begin to better know him/herself. It does not matter how a preacher undertakes conscious self-awareness for regardless of the method the results can only serve to strengthen and deepen his/her preaching and general ministry. Preacher, know thyself!—Rodney K. Miller, North Bend United Methodist Church, North Bend, Pennsylvania.

(Used by permission of *Pulpit Digest*, P.O. Box 5199, Jackson, Mississippi 39216).

"DAYSPRING III" BRINGS BIBLES TO ISLANDS OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

The commissioning ceremony for "Dayspring III." Left to Right: Mr. Colin Reed, General Secretary of the Bible Society in New Zealand; Aggie and Ron Russell, first mate and skipper of the ketch; and Mr. Frank Hutchinson of the Pakuranga Assembly. (American Bible Society photo)

(ABS)—Sometimes Bibles must be moved in unusual ways from the places they are produced to where the people are who want them—by jeep or helicopter, on horseback or mule, floated down rivers strapped to flatboats, even backpacked over rugged mountain terrain.

Recently "Dayspring III" docked in Auckland, New Zealand, at the end of her maiden voyage of several months and as many thousands of miles, carrying just one item of cargo—Scriptures, in local languages, to the people who live on the myriad small islands which dot the South Pacific.

"Dayspring" is third in a line of sturdy workhorses bearing the name and used by the Bible Societies because it is the only practical way to ship Scriptures to places not even big enough for an airstrip.

The first of her two predecessors was retired when the job outgrew her.

The second "Dayspring" met a far more tragic end. She foundered on a coral reef during a mammoth storm 240 miles off Fiji. Skipper Ron Russell, along with a crew member, clung for hours to her timbers until a government vessel could come to their rescue.

"Dayspring III," is a 70-foot, 50-ton ketch whose cargo is Scriptures, in local languages, for the inhabitants of myriad small islands of the South Pacific. She is the third in a line of ships bearing the name and used by the Bible Societies to deliver God's Word to places inaccessible by any other mode of transport. (American Bible Society photo)

"Dayspring III" is a 70-foot, 50-ton ketch and English-born Ron, along with his Polynesian wife Aggie, their daughter and small crew, have dedicated their lives to carrying Scriptures to the islanders.

To Ron and Aggie it is a true labor of devotion, chosen by them because they want to carry the gospel message to others.

Of this first "Dayspring III" odyssey, which took them to places as far flung as Suva, Tuvalu, Wallis and Fortuna, Ron Russell had this to say, "Apart from battling strong northerly winds for four days, a number of minor problems with the rigging, and an annoying diesel leak that got into our precious potato supply, we had a delightful voyage, arriving well and fit and giving much praise to our Lord and Saviour."

The world's Bible Societies, of which the American Bible Society is a leading partner, are each year responsible for the distribution of millions of Scriptures throughout the world, in hundreds of languages.

DON'T BE A FRAIDYCAT

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

The Word of God tells us how to conquer our fears in this life. If we are not afraid to try God's plan, we can see that it will work for us. Seemingly, every part of life is touched with fear of some kind. They can bring sorrowful, pain-filled days, if we allow these things to take over our lives. We should learn that in Christ Jesus we can have the solution to all our fears. Let's think on three thoughts that will help us overcome all our fears.

THE WEAKNESS OF THE FLESH

Paul faced weakness, just as we do. He conquered it, through Jesus Christ. He once said:

"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed: Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body" (2 Corinthians 4:8-10).

Paul recognized his weakness, and found himself forced to rest upon the power of God. He prayed three times for a certain thorn in his flesh to be removed. It was not taken away, but God said to him, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness."

I must recognize my weakness in the flesh. It is only after I see this weakness and acknowledge it that I can be strong in the Lord. This is what Paul meant when he said, "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong." But in recogizing my weakness, I should not allow myself to become pessimistic.

A man had the habit of saying, "It might be worse." His wife ran off with another man. A friend came to comfort him, thinking that this was one time he could not say, "It might be worse." When he spoke to the man about his wife, he only said, "It might be worse."

His friend was shocked. "How can you say, "It might be worse." Your wife has run away with another man. The man only replied, "She might come back."

Then I must recognize the tendency to fear. Fear is a common ailment of this day. All must sooner or later face the problem and the weakness of fear.

Elijah had great power with God. It is not easy to remember but Elijah had fears. After the great victory on Mount Carmel, he ran for his life. Jezebel threatened him and he went a day's journey, sat under a juniper tree and cried out. "It is enough now, O Lord, take away my life." Elijah was afraid.

Everyone must face trouble and fear, but we don't have to be a fraidycat.

I must recognize that worry is sin. Worry is the lack of faith. Worry is a dependence upon the flesh. Worry points downward. Worry will put us on the run.

So don't be a fraidycat; recognize the weakness of your life. Weakness can only be overcome by faith in God.

THE WISDOM OF MY SAVIOUR

He knows my needs. How blessed is this thought. He knows my weakness. He knows my fears. He knows my proneness to fail. He knows that I can conquer all things through His power.

But wait a minute! Although He knows my weakness, He waits for me to call upon Him for help. This is God's way. If a man fails in life, he has no one to blame but himself. "Ye have not, because ye ask not" (James 4:2).

When I see my need, I must come to the all-wise God and ask for help. He never fails. He is ever near. He is the all-wise God.

When the disciples were being tossed about on the Sea of Galilee one stormy night, they were afraid. He came walking to them on the water.

He was near Daniel in the lions' den. He was with Paul and Silas in the jail at Philippi and released them after their midnight service. He is ever near. He was near John on the isle of Patmos. You could almost hear John shout, "And this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."

What made John write like this? He was conscious of the presence of God. John was an old man, broken and about to die. Yet he could still shout the victory because the Lord was near!

He cannot fail. Friends may fail, things may change. But He cannot fail or change. "For I am God, I change not."

My Saviour is wise. He knows my need. He is ever near. He cannot fail.

September is Home Missions and Church Extension Month.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE

Young People's Bible Conference

On Monday morning, July 25, 1983, many children and adults gathered at Faith Church for the bus to Cragmont. Then more campers were waiting at Holly Springs Church. Everyone was happy and ready.

When we arrived at Cragmont we were welcomed by the staff and those who had already arrived from Erwin Church to join the Carteret County group. Later, the people from Northern Church, Bahama, arrived.

The leader of the group for that week was the Rev. James Gurganus and his wife, Dean, who had worked hard to pick out just the right material and the right lessons. There were five lessons based on the Bible and the Free Will Baptist *Articles of Faith.* The theme was "The Church."

Mrs. Jan Price was the song leader and her theme for the song services was "Getting Fired Up for Christ." The theme song for the week was "Thank God for America." We had a great piano player, Mr. Roger Hill, from Clayton.

The Rev. James Gurganus preached on Monday night.

On Tuesday morning we started our schedule by getting up early for exercises, devotions, and flag raising. After breakfast, we started our lessons. The counselors were the teachers. It worked out well. The young people learned about the Spirit of God and took part in the lessons by asking and answering questions. We had recreation in the afternoon. We followed this schedule on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. The Rev. Arnold Price preached at the night services.

On Wednesday, the group spent the day at Ghost Town.

Some of the children made crafts, but most went mountain

(Continued on Page 19)

Robert's Grove Church Honors Dr. W. Burkette Raper

The Rev. Jerry A. Allen and Dr. W. Burkette Raper

On Sunday, August 28, Robert's Grove Church, Route 1, Dunn, paid tribute to Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College. Dr. Raper was scheduled to deliver the morning message, and when the pastor, the Rev. Jerry A. Allen, introduced the speaker of the hour, he presented to Dr. Raper a plaque honoring him for the splendid job he has done, and is doing, in promoting the Free Will Baptist denominational work. He also presented him with a gift of a watch.

Dr. Raper delivered a very inspiring message using a portion of Scripture from Proverbs 29:18, "Where there is no vision, the people perish," as his text. His message was educational and was enjoyed by everyone in attendance.

Youth Day Services Held at Rose Hill Church

Sunday morning, September 11, at Rose Hill Church, Route 1, Winterville, a special program was given by the young people of the church. It was Youth Sunday at Rose Hill! The YFA, AFC and Cherubs groups were in charge of the services.

The Cherubs Auxiliary rendered Scripture reading and songs. They used Matthew 5:1-11.

The AFCs presented music for the service with songs from the group as well as a solo by Kim Buck.

The YFA group was in charge of the Invocation, which was given by Barbara Dell Wilson. Marty Wilson served as pianist and also offered a prayer during the service. The message for the hour was given by Donald McCoy. Donald spoke about "Today's Heroes." He used Hebrews 11:23-29 as his text, Moses being his biblical hero and Burt Reynolds, the example of today's hero. He challenged parents to train their children in faith.

Ushers for the service included: Aaron Adams, Thomas Adams, Todd Buck, Derrick Foster, and Lee Stocks.

The pastor of the church is the Rev. Leon Harris.

Central Conference Women to Meet

The Central Conference Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene with the Marlboro Church, Farmville, on September 24, 1983. The theme for the convention will be "Redemption Draweth Nigh," with the Scripture taken from Romans 13:11, "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awaken out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed." The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "In the Service of the King"
—Devotion, Mrs. Ruby Ellis
—Welcome, Mrs. Margaret Murphy
—Response, Mrs. Ruth Taylor
10:15—Greetings, President
—Recognition Time
—Business
10:30—Missions Report, Mrs. Wallie Hargrove
—Roll Call of Auxiliaries
—(Mission Money and Talents for Cragmont)
—Chorus Time, Miss Leah McGlohon
10:50—Children's Home, Mrs. Judy Moore
—Retirement Homes
—Love Offering
—Free Will Baptist Press
—Hymn, "All Hail the Power"
11:20—Special Music, Gum Swamp
11:30—Morning Message, Miss Becky Jo Sumner
12:00—Benediction
—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15—Memorial Service, Mrs. C. L. Patrick
—Prayer
—Youth, Mrs. Joan Little, Mrs. Mitzi Hobgood
—Study Course, Mrs. Deborah Lancaster
—Cragmont
—Mount Olive College
—Anna Phillips Loan Fund, Mrs. Cleo Hinson
2:00—Chorus Time, Miss Leah McGlohon
—Business Period
—Reflections, Mrs. Lou McLawhorn
2:30—Hymn, "My Saviour's Love"
—Adjournment

Revival to Be Held at St. Mary's Church

Revival services will be held at St. Mary's Church, Route 4, Kenly, September 26-30. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special music and singing each night. A nursery will be provided each night. The prayer rooms will open each night at 7:15. The Rev. J. C. Yates, pastor of Saratoga Church, will be bringing the message each evening.

The pastor, the Rev. Graham Faucette, and the church membership invite everyone to attend.

Homecoming Day to Be Held At Rose Hill Church

Homecoming Day at Rose Hill Church, near Winterville, will be observed on Sunday, October 2. The services for the day will include Sunday school at 10 a.m. and worship services at 11 a.m., with the pastor, the

Rev. Leon Harris, bringing the homecoming message. A display involving the church's history will be shown.

Following these services, lunch will be served in the fellowship building. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend.

Upcoming Events at Macedonia Church

Revival services are in progress through September 23, at Macedonia Church, near Vanceboro. The evangelist is the Rev. William Jackie Godwin. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m.

On Sunday, September 25, the church will observe homecoming day. The gospel sing will be in the afternoon. The Rev. Walter Sutton is pastor of the church.

Homecoming and Revival at First Church, Durham

The First Church, Durham, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, September 25. The day's activities will begin with Sunday school at 9:45 a.m., followed by the 11 a.m. worship service. After the worship service, lunch will be served on the grounds.

Beginning at 1:30 p.m., there will be an afternoon sing consisting of the Horizons Quartet and other groups in the church.

Revival services will be held September 26-30. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Jesse Caton, pastor of Wooten's Chapel Church, Raleigh. The pastor, the Rev. Fred Johnson, and the church congregation invite the public to attend.

Albemarle District Youth to Meet

The Albemarle District Youth Fellowship Convention will be held on Monday, October 3, at First Church, Plymouth. the time of the meeting is 7:30 p.m. All youth advisors, ministers, and parents are urged to attend regardless of whether a member of this convention.

Upcoming Events at Smith's New Home Church

Homecoming will be held at Smith's New Home Church, Route 1, Deep Run, North Carolina, Highway 258, south of Kinston, on September 25. An all-day program is planned with lunch being served at the noon hour. The Rev. A. B. Bryan, pastor of the local church, will deliver the homecoming sermon and the adult choir will render special music. The afternoon service will be composed of a memorial service under the direction of Mrs. Happy Taylor of the local church. The Jackson Heights Quartet will also be the special guest singers for the afternoon service.

Revival services will be held September 26 through September 30. The Rev. Alton Howard of Fayetteville will be the guest speaker. Mr. Howard is a former member of the local church and as a boy he grew up in the community and attended the local church, later moving from the community and later to enter the ministry. He is the present pastor of a growing new church in the Fayetteville area. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Hugo Church Choir to Present Program

The Hugo Church Choir will present a gospel music program at Hugo Church, near Grifton, on September 25, at 7 p.m. There will be a special offering received and the offering will be applied to the church's quota for the annual Mount Olive College dinner gifts.

The pastor, the Rev. Tom Miller, and the church membership invite everyone to come and share in this program.

Upcoming Events at Tee's Chapel Church

Revival services will be held September 25-29, at Tee's Chapel Church near Smithfield. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Dennis Pollock will be the guest speaker.

Homecoming services will be observed on Sunday, October 2, beginning with Sunday school at 10 a.m. followed by the worship service at 11. The Rev. Billy Nowell will be the guest speaker. There will be a picnic lunch at noon, followed by a singspiration in the afternoon.

The Rev. T. C. Farmer, pastor, invites everyone to attend these services.

Revival and Homecoming at People's Chapel Church

Revival will be held at People's Chapel Church, Elm City, September 26-30. Prayer rooms open at 7:30 p.m. The time of the services is 7:45 p.m. The Rev. Craig Simmons, pastor of First Church of Wilson, will be the evangelist. On Friday night after the services, refreshments will be served in the Ferrell Building.

Homecoming will be observed on October 2. Services for the day will begin with Sunday school at 10 a.m. followed by worship services at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served in the Ferrell Building. There will be special singing in the afternoon featuring the Mount Zion Quartet, the church choir and other special guests. All members, former members and pastors are invited to attend. The Rev. Barry Gardner is pastor of the church.

Upcoming Events at Gum Swamp Church

Gum Swamp Church, Route 6, Greenville, wants everyone to know that they are VIP's—Very Invited Persons. Everyone is invited to share the blessings of homecoming services on Sunday, September 25.

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A feast will be spread outside in thanksgiving to God for the history and heritage of the church. Homecoming is a great time for reunion of family and friends, and provides a foretaste of glory divine that will be for all at the homecoming as they sit dowm with the family of God at the marriage supper of the Lamb!

Everyone is invited to attend revival services, September 26-30, at 7:30 p. m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Marvin Waters, pastor of St. Mary's Church in New Bern. There will be special singing each night. A nursery will be provided each night. The Rev. Ray Williamson is pastor of the church.

Homecoming and Revival to Be Held at Union Grove Church

Union Grove Church, Route 2, Fremont, will hold its annual homecoming on September 25. Sunday school will begin at 9:45 a. m. The Rev. Bob Harber, former pastor, now Field Missionary to the H'mong people in California, will bring the 11 a.m. worship message. Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall at the noon hour. There will be a short song service and a brief history of the church in the afternoon. All former pastors, members and friends are extended a special invitation to worship and fellowship during this occasion. The Rev. C. Ray Taylor is the pastor.

Revival services will be held September 26-30 with the Rev. Bob Harber as guest speaker. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Round-up Sunday at Gum Swamp Church

Gum Swamp Church had its second annual "round-up Sunday" on September 11 with 146 in Sunday school. The idea was to "round-up" everybody from vacations and "corral" them into Sunday school. The class with 100% and the most new members and visitors was named "Champion Class." Pictured above in front of the fellowship hall are those who made the day a great success. Steve Little is Sunday school superintendent and Jeffrey Spain is assistant superintendent.

Pastor Ray Williamson awards the "Champion Class" plaque to Faye Little and Bobby Forbes, teachers of the Young Adult Sunday School Class of Gum Swamp Church during its "round-up" day September 11. Members of the class are Susan Williams, Lori Brown, Brenda Waters, Rita Bell, Kent and Paula Brown, Lisa and Mark Nelson, and Ricky Brown.

COMING EVENTS

September—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

September 24—Central District Woman's Auxiliary Fall Convention, Marlboro Church, Farmville

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October 5—Albemarle Conference, Free Union Church, Pinetown

October 15—Pee Dee Association Annual Meeting, Pireway Church, 16 miles east of Tabor City, 9 a.m.

October 19, 20—Eastern Conference

October 30—Mount Olive College Day in Local Churches

October 30—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention

BRING THEM IN

Jackie Barnard

It's Sunday afternoon and I am standing before my kitchen sink washing dishes from our noon meal. The day is peaceful and hot. As I look out through my window, over the sink, I watch the people walking down the street. As they pass by I watch their faces and wonder who they are. Just where are they going? What problems do they have? I also wonder, do they know my Saviour?

My mind goes back to a conversation I had several weeks ago with a young couple. They have their businesses in their home. The man is a commercial artist; and the wife, a beautician. I was there getting a manicure.

Exactly how the subject came about, I can't recall. We were discussing the Catholic Church. (They are Catholics.) The man began praising the Catholic Church for its policy of not rejecting membership to anyone. He kept talking about love. He said we must love everyone and reject no one.

Next, he asked if I thought homosexuals would go to Heaven. I said, "Only if they repent of their sins and accept Jesus as Saviour and Lord." I used Sodom and Gomorrah as an illustration of God's wrath upon those who participate in this sin. He said "Baptist" churches should not reject homosexuals. I asked what he meant by this. He was condemning Baptist churches for not allowing these people to join their churches. I explained that only repentance of their sins and acceptance of Jesus as Saviour would give them New Life and the right to church membership. This was not acceptable to him. He held firm in his belief that the Catholic Church was the more Christian.

I tried to stress, without debating, that God is a God of love, but He is also a Holy God. Sin is sin, and God must judge sin. In fact, He already has! Unless one has been "born again" he cannot enter into the gates of Heaven (see Luke 13:3). There will be no homosexuals, no murderers, no liars there. There are none who reject Jesus Christ who will live in Heaven (see Galatians 5:19-21).

As I went home, my heart was sad and even now the sadness returns. This young couple goes on living their lives as they please. They believe God loves them and will never judge them for their sins. Their hearts are darkened by the Evil One.

The dishes are almost done, and my thoughts are now turning to an incident that took place on a city bus recently. The kids and I enjoy singing choruses as we ride around Manila on the buses. (From one part of Manila to another can sometimes take several hours.) We do not sing at the top of our lungs, but we do get stares from many. As foreigners, we often get stared at, even when we are perfectly still and quiet.

This particular day we were singing a few Tagalog songs. A young man across the aisle from Shanna tapped her on the shoulder. He loudly exclaimed, "Do you know there are people in the Philippines who go crazy over Jesus? They go 'round shouting and praising His name." We were surprised by his outburst. Meekly, I tried to explain it's good to praise the Lord when it comes from the heart. I started to continue, but was stopped by his next statement. It was at once alarming and puzzling. "I'm the idol of Satan!" he exclaimed. Shanna and I stared at one another in shock. What did he mean by that? Before we could recover, he got off the bus.

The dishes are finished and I now turn to other tasks. My mind is still on the people "outside." How can I tell them about Jesus? How can I get them to understand what He means to me?

A thought just occurred to me. Maybe, I should chase them shouting, "I have the answer to your problems." "I have a friend you ought to meet." Of course, this is not the answer. But, what is?

Love is a part of the answer. The young Catholic couple grasped that much. The Bible says we should love others as we love ourselves. Romans 12 comes to mind. It is a chapter of guidance to me. Verse 2 says we should not be "conformed" to this world. That tells me to be different from the unsaved. My life should be lived for Jesus. I should seek to know and to do His will.

When I think about witnessing to a homosexual I am embarrassed and feel guilty. I cringe at the ugliness of this particular sin. God judges sin as sin, not in degrees. Why do I feel more repulsed by one type of sin than another? This presents a great need in my life. I must continually commit this to the Lord. Like Paul, I need the prayers of others that I might declare boldly the word of God.

I will soon be washing dishes again. My thoughts may carry me elsewhere. I know that as I seek God's will for my life I will continue to wonder about

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others. I will still be praying for the lost. (I pray when washing dishes, making beds, cooking, washing clothes, sweeping, I guess I pray most of my waking hours.) Prayer!! That's the key, I'm sure of it. That is how I can reach out beyond my window. I cannot give the chase to them, literally. Yet, my prayers can follow them and present them before the throne of God.

Will you help me as I strive to reach others for Him? I do need your prayers. Maybe you can be a part of the answer. I believe you can. If you desire to know how you can better be used of God in reaching out to those in the bondage of sin, please contact the Board of Foreign Missions.

Jackie Barnard
Missionary to the Philippines

Retirement Homes

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
August, 1983
Total $860.07

ALBEMARLE	
Mount Zion	$ 50.00
Total	$ 50.00
CAPE FEAR	
Casey's Chapel	$ 20.00
Powhatan	20.00
Total	$ 40.00
CENTRAL	
Community	$ 10.00
Edgewood	35.00
Friendship	20.00
Hull Road	100.00
Saratoga	20.00
Union Number 2	14.20
Total	$199.20
EASTERN	
Mount Zion	$ 20.00
Pearsall Chapel	20.00
Smith's New Home	30.00
Spring Hope	10.00
White Hill	20.00
Wintergreen	20.00
Total	$120.00
PEE DEE	
Union Number 1	$ 50.00
Total	$ 50.00
PIEDMONT	
East Rockingham	$ 20.00
Total	$ 20.00
WESTERN	
Free Union	$ 20.00
Kenly	20.00
Oak Grove	20.00
Sherron Acres	25.00
Spring Hill	20.00
Wilson, First	150.00
Total	$255.00
STATEWIDE	
Christian Service Fund	$120.87
First, St. Cloud, Florida	5.00
Total	$125.87

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

Have you been looking for new and creative ideas to improve and renew your Sunday school program? If so, then you will want to read *New Life for Your Sunday School.* It was written by Dr. Iris V. Cully. The Seabury Press published it in 1979. The author was the first woman appointed to the faculty of Yale Divinity School. Currently Professor of Religious Education at Lexington Theological Seminary in Kentucky, she has written seven books, including *Children in the Church* and *Christian Child Development.* She is also the co-founder of *The Review of Books and Religion* and former Editor-in-Chief of *The New Review of Books and Religion.*

New Life for Your Sunday School clearly reflects the many years of study and practical experience of its author. Each page is filled with fresh insights and practical suggestions for bringing "new life" into the Sunday school. Chapter One explores the reasons for having a Sunday school and the importance of determining clear goals for it. Chapters Two and Three offer helpful advice for getting and keeping teachers. Chapter Four looks at the problem of getting and keeping pupils in the Sunday school. Chapter Five explores the important role and responsibility of the board or committee of Christian education in the church. Chapter Six examines the role of Sunday school officers and offers practical suggestions for the efficient administration of the Sunday school program. Chapter Seven looks at variety as the spice of life for the Sunday school. The author shares some exciting variations for the Christian education program of the church on Sunday and even during the weekdays. She notes that some churches have Sunday school after the morning worship service or integrated with it. Others have it on Sunday evenings. Some have replaced the Sunday school with the Saturday school. Chapters Eight and Nine set forth some suggestions for improving the Sunday school's youth and adult programs. The last chapter examines the importance of worship in the Sunday school and how learning can take place through worship. The book also contains a helpful index.

I highly recommend this book to pastors, teachers, superintendents, parents, and for the members of boards of Christian education. If read and applied, it can help bring "new life" to any Sunday school. It can be ordered through one of our bookstores.

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES HOWARD BRILEY

It was on Thursday morning, June 2, 1983, that the Lord saw fit to call from us the soul of one of the most devoted friends and Christians of our church and community, Mr. Charles Howard Briley. He was 60 years of age.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 4, in Wilkerson Funeral Chapel by his pastor, the Rev. David Hill. Burial followed in Bethel Cemetery.

Mr. Briley, a life-long resident of the Sweet Gum Grove Community, was a member of

(Continued on Page 19)

WILLS AND BEQUESTS

A will is an excellent way to give.

If we do not plan for the disposition of our estate, the state will!

Taxes will claim a large percentage of what could have been used for your favorite Christian work.

Write your own will and have it witnessed, or consult your legal advisor for help.

State clearly in your will that you wish to make the FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC., recipient of all or any portion of your estate.

This action will permit the designated portion of your estate to pass to the Home without being taxed by the state under present law.

We will be glad to assist you in formulating a will!

Legal and professional counselors will be consulted in the preparation of your contribution to ensure that your gift will serve your interests as well as the Home's.

Life estate contracts allow donors to remain in control of their property or assets during their lifetimes so that they receive the income and benefits derived.

THE LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRY ENSURES THAT THE HOMELESS CHILD OF TOMORROW WILL HAVE A CHRISTIAN HOME

The Lighthouse Ministry is an endowment program.

Gifts of $1,000 or more are placed on deposit and the interest is used for the day-to-day operation of the Home.

It is open to individuals, churches and groups of individuals who may wish to honor or memorialize a parent, a friend, a loved one, a pastor, or some other able servant of God.

The endowment will bear the name of the church or the person or persons in whose honor or memory it is given.

An appropriate framed certificate suitable for display will be given to the donor.

LIFE INSURANCE

Giving through insurance

Hundreds of people are giving large sums to their favorite Christian work through insurance. You may make arrangements with your agent, or the Children's Home will assist you. You also may change a policy already in force making the Home beneficiary. Premiums are tax deductible contributions to the Children's Home. Your gift will keep on giving, even after your death. As long as there is a child in need, your gift and influence will be there to help.

Annuities and trust funds

Annuities and trust funds allow donors to set aside a sum as a contribution to the Children's Home, enjoy the tax benefits, and receive an income from the estate as long as they live and for the life of survivors as well.

The trust officer of your bank will be consulted to ensure that your gift will serve your interest as well as the Home's.

1983 SCHEDULE FOR COLLEGE DINNERS

The dates for the Church Dinners for Mount Olive College have been scheduled for the following counties.

Lenoir County, Saturday, October 1, 7 p.m., King's Restaurant, Kinston, A. Stanley Jenkins and Adrian Grubbs, Co-Chairmen. Goal $7,310

Edgecombe-Halifax Counties, Monday, October 3, 7:30 p.m., First Church, Tarboro, Rufus Harrell, Chairman. Goal $5,800

Jones County, Tuesday, October 4, 7 p.m., King's Restaurant, Kinston, Mrs. Mildred Jenkins, Chairman. Goal $2,550

Nash County, Wednesday, October 5, 7 p.m., Middlesex Elementary School, Middlesex, Lester Duncan, Chairman. Goal $4,150

Onslow, New Hanover, Brunswick Counties, Thursday, October 6, 7 p.m., Folkstone Church, O. B. Taylor, Chairman. Goal $2,175

Beaufort County, Saturday, October 8, 7 p.m., Chocowinity High School, Chocowinity, Billy Gurkin, Chairman. Goal $7,315

Greene County, Monday, October 10, 7 p.m., West Greene School, Snow Hill, George Harrison, Chairman. Goal $9,850

Wayne County, Tuesday, October 25, 7 p.m., Mount Olive College Auditorium, Mount Olive, Colby Benton, Chairman. Goal $18,000

Duplin County, Saturday, October 29, 6 p.m., East Duplin High School near Beulaville, William D. Thigpen, Chairman. Goal $10,000

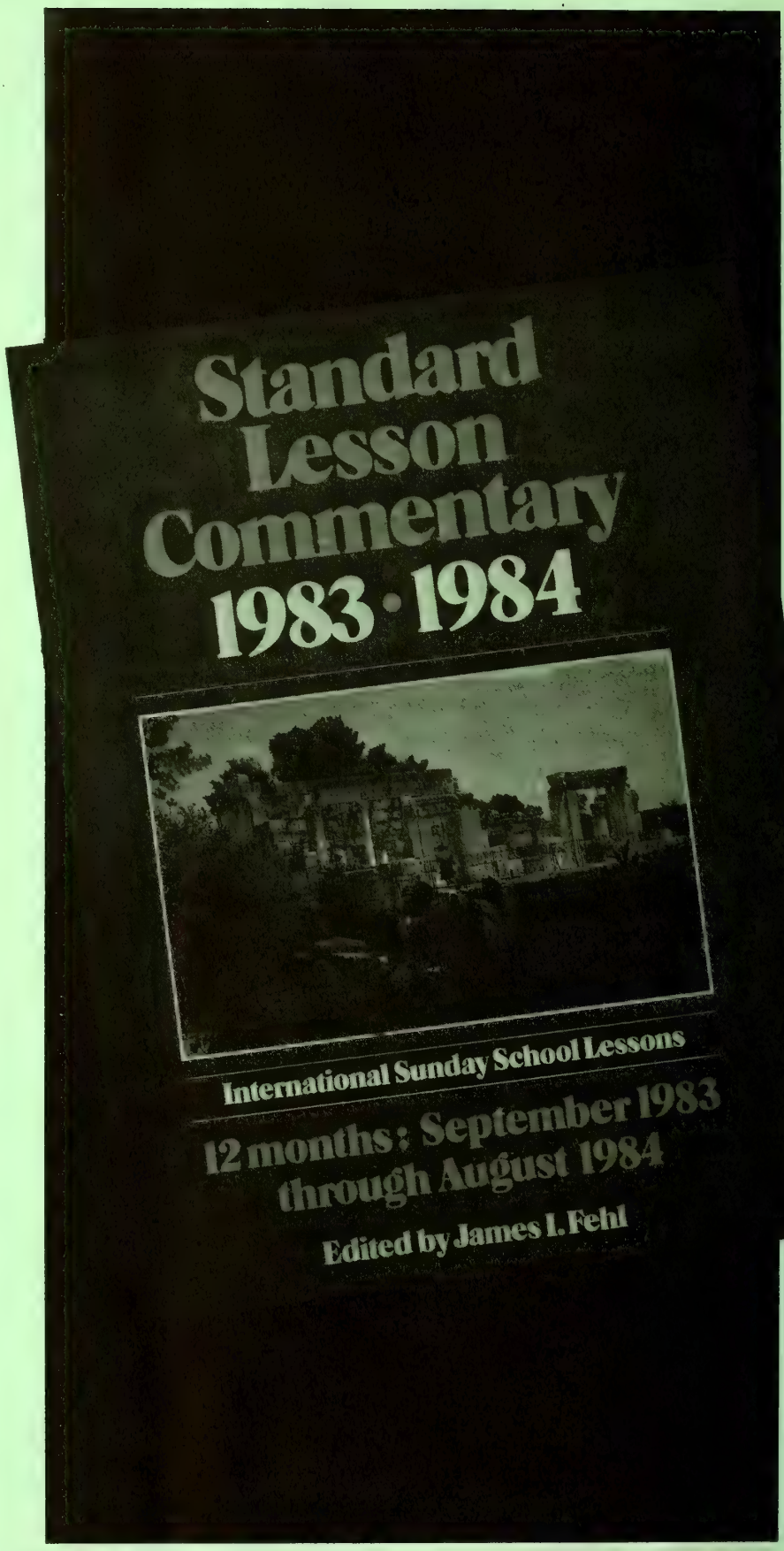
Wilson County, Tuesday, November 1, 7 p.m., Beddingfield High School near Wilson, James B. Hunt Sr., Chairman. Goal $18,200

Carteret County, Saturday, November 5, 6:30 p.m., East Carteret High School near Beaufort, David Ward, Chairman. Goal $8,300

Johnston-Wake Counties, Monday, November 7, 7 p.m., Everett Chapel Church (Spiritual Life Building), Clayton, (Chairman to be announced). Goal $25,200

Craven County, Monday, November 14, 7 p.m., West Craven Middle School near New Bern, Miss Marice DeBruhl, Chairman. Goal $11,275

Pamlico County, Saturday, November 19, 6 p.m., Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, M. N. (Tom) Caroon, Chairman. Goal $6,200



Available through the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and its branch bookstores—New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston and Whiteville.

THE TYRANNY OF THINGS

Every now and again I discover some pretty good theology coming out of modern songwriters. For one thing, it's more comprehensible to me than what comes out of most theologians. My fault, I'm sure, not theirs, but still true. Now I don't know anything about Kris Kristofferson's faith, but you'd be hard pressed to find a more succinct statement of truth than this line in his song, *Me and Bobbie McGee:* "Freedom's just another word for nothin' left to lose."

I can just hear Jesus affirming that: "A man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions" (Luke 12:15, NIV).

I don't believe Jesus is taking a hard-line view of abundance. What He is saying is that the acquisition of things, contrary to general belief then and now, is not where life's true values reside. At issue is not the abundance or scarcity of things (Paul allowed that he was able to co-exist peacefully with either, see Philippians 4:12), but rather the importance one attaches to things, many or few.

I suspect that for most of us, poor as well as rich, Christian as well as not, *things* are what our lives are mostly about. To the extent that this is so, we do not possess things but are possessed by them. We go through life harnessed to their weight like Bryant's "quarry-slave at night" goes "scourged to his dungeon."

No freedom to skip and dance.

Reared in poverty, I've all my adult life had an emotional need for economic security. Looking back from this vantage point, I am appalled that I took so little time out to smell flowers or marvel at meadowlarks. For me, the butterflies were all queasily in my stomach, none gloriously on the wing. I, too, have bent under the burden, ever conscious of what little I had, unaware that it had me; worrying lest I lose even the little. Which is why I know Jesus was talking about an attitude, not an amount.

The crazy thing is that all the time I knew the text by heart. I used to quote it for others in sermons.

Lately, but perhaps not too late, I am learning that freedom from the tyranny of things means letting go, relinquishing the grasping, focusing attention on something other than getting and keeping.

A recent television program showed a method for trapping monkeys. The natives made a hole in a log and put bait inside. The monkey reached his hand in to get the bait, but when his fingers closed on it, he couldn't get his fist back through the hole. Determined to hang on to what he had, he was still hanging on when captured. All he need do to be free was let go. But to let go was to him incomprehensible—his priorities would not permit it.

So he is destroyed by what he supposes he possesses. Silly monkey. Silly people.

And it can happen with so little.

In his story of Russian prison camp experiences, Solzhenitsyn tells of inmates who suffer incredible hardships and have nothing but the barest of essentials, yet learn to be at peace. Then a rare gift parcel arrives with a few simple things. Immediately, the recipient becomes protective and withdrawn, jealously guarding each small item—an ugly mood, Solzhenitsyn says, worse than prison itself.

Try to recall how quickly the things we "possess" become meaningless when something really important comes along. When a serious illness strikes, it is immediately clear that life does not consist of things. When sirens and flashing lights signal an accident on the road, I think how suddenly life has changed for those involved. All plans and carefully set priorities are suddenly rearranged.

A friend told me the story of a traveler in a far country who was making a long journey by train. He put his valise on the overhead rack and having been warned to guard his bag at all times against thieves, he checked the rack frequently with his eyes.

Darkness fell, lights were turned on, the train clattered through the night. The traveler did not dare sleep, he had to watch his valise. By morning, he was bleary-eyed, but he had kept awake; his valise was secure. Keeping his eyes open became torture and despite his valiant efforts, they closed for a few moments. With a start, he awoke and looked up. The valise was gone.

"Thank God," he sighed, "now I can go to sleep!"

The things which own us don't have to be just cars, houses and lands. Ideas, convictions and prejudices can possess our minds and attitudes. These are the worst kind of tyrants, I've discovered. They make us judgmental, quarrelsome, schismatic. They drive us to all kinds of spiritual excesses under the disguise of "truth." Often they are simply human

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Scripture Reading—John 21; Acts 1

JESUS, LOVER OF MY SOUL

Charles Wesley was one day sitting by an open window, enjoying the fresh spring air and the fragrant breath of his garden below. Suddenly his attention was diverted to the frantic flutterings of a sparrow attempting to elude a pursuing hawk. The little sparrow flew straight to him and hid itself in the ample folds of his coat. Wesley himself was full of grave cares and anxieties at the time. He saw in the incident a parable of his own deliverance from fear. Inspiration came instantly to him to write a hymn which will last as long as time lasts: "Jesus, Lover of My Soul"! Thousands of tempest-tossed souls have found a comfort in this beautiful song.

There's something about a fine old hymn,
That can stir the heart of a man,
That can reach the goal of his inmost soul,
Such as no mere preaching can!

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Scripture Reading—Acts 2

SINGING TWO THOUSAND FEET BELOW

The late Charles M. Alexander and the writer were on one occasion inspecting a gold mine in Bendigo, Australia, my native town. We descended to a depth of two thousand feet. Then we groped our way along a narrow, tortuous drive, aided by the dim light of candles, until we reached an open space where the miners were working on the gold reef. One of the miners, George Bartlett by name, asked Mr. Alexander to sing a verse of the "Glory Song." Together we sang the last verse.

Friends will be there I have loved long ago,
Joy like a river around me will flow;
Yet just a smile from my Saviour, I know,
Will thro' the ages be glory for me.

As we sang, Bartlett knelt and began to pray. As the strains of the song ceased, Mr. Alexander and I knelt beside him, and spoke to him about his personally accepting Christ as his Saviour. Definite prayer was offered; the way of life was clearly explained, and that day, George Bartlett was led to a definite acceptance of Christ as his personal Saviour.

It's more than the tune of the song he sings,
And it's more than the poet's rhyme,
It's the Spirit of God working through them,
That gives them their power sublime!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Scripture Reading—Acts 3

HYMNS COULD NOT BE SPANKED OUT OF HIM

In the period following the Reformation, singing in churches was confined mostly to psalms. It was thought wrong and even sinful to make up new hymns.

One man who made many contributions to the change from psalm singing to hymn singing was Isaac Watts. By the age of seven, he was composing so many poems that his father became annoyed and ordered him to quit. But Isaac refused. So his father took him to the woodshed to "spank poetry out of him." But poetry was too deeply ingrained in Isaac for that.

When he was eighteen, Isaac complained to his father that the hymns in the church service were uninspiring. "Well," said his father, "if you could improve on them, why don't you try?"

Isaac did try. After much prayer, he wrote a hymn which was sung the following Sunday. During the following two years he wrote a new hymn for each service. At first, his hymns met opposition, for people considered them emotional, but Isaac Watts wrote on. Today his hymns are sung in churches throughout the world. The Lord guided his pen to write such never-to-be-forgotten hymns as "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross."

So we thank Thee, Lord, for the grand old hymns,
May we use them again and again,
As we seek to save from a hopeless grave,
The souls of our fellow men!

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Scripture Reading—Acts 4

BRIGHTEN THE CORNER

This gospel song truly had its origin in a testing experience of its author—Mrs. Ina Dudley Ogdon. As a girl she saw visions and dreamed dreams. But her well-made plans and cherished ambitions had to be abandoned. She had an invalid father. Her dreams of reaching great audiences and swaying them by her eloquence in large auditoriums melted away and in their place she saw just one—her father. It was a struggle undoubtedly to reconcile her great ambition and a humble task, but at last she found her peace in God's perfect will. The transition from resentment to quiet resignation was made at last. She describes it in the little song so popular in the Billy Sunday revival campaigns:

Do not wait until some deed of greatness you may do,
Do not wait to shed your light afar,
To the many duties near you ever now be true,
Brighten the corner where you are.

Just above are clouded skies that you may help to clear,
Let not narrow self your way debar
Tho' into one heart alone may fall your song of cheer,
Brighten the corner where you are.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Scripture Reading—Acts 5

SONG ABOVE THE FIELD OF BATTLE

It was on the eve of one of the great battles of Flanders. About midnight, the quiet was suddenly broken by the roar of German artillery. A shower of shells fell upon the British trenches. The British batteries replied and for several hours there was an incessant thunder of great guns. The air was filled with death's messengers. Toward morning, the bombardment ceased almost as abruptly as it had begun. The hush of night fell upon the field of death! Then, another and altogether different sound was heard. Somewhere, far above, a lark began to sing. Wearied with the noise of confusion and strife, the little herald of the dawn had mounted up until he caught the first gleam of the coming day, and called down the good news to those who were still in the darkness!

Often the most useful Christians are those who serve their Master in little things. He never despises the day of small things, or else He would not hide His oaks in the acorns, or the wealth of a wheat field in bags of little seeds.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Scripture Reading—Acts 6, 7

DEAR LORD, DO NOT PASS ME BY!

Blind Fanny Crosby wrote many beautiful hymns. She dearly loved her Lord. She would go anywhere to tell others of Jesus. One day she spoke in a prison to the convicts about Jesus. "He will come into your heart and make your life anew if you will ask Him for His mercy and forgiveness!" she said. As she spoke, a poor man who had been in the prison for many years, cried out, "O, dear Lord, don't pass me by. Do be merciful to me a sinner. O, do not pass me by!" The earnest plea went right to the heart of Miss Crosby. She went to her room and wrote the hymn, "Pass Me Not."

Pass me not, O gentle Saviour,
Hear my humble cry;
While on others Thou art calling,
Do not pass me by.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

Scripture Reading—Acts 8:1-25

GREATEST EARTHLY MUSIC

What is the most inspiring music you ever heard? An old man wrote of his being present in Boston in 1869 at the great Peace Jubilee in commemoration of the ending of the Civil War. There was a chorus of ten thousand voices and an orchestra of one thousand pieces. Two hundred anvils had been placed on the platform for use in the Anvil Chorus.

There were huge bells. Outside, in the park, was artillery to be fired electrically in harmony with the chorus. At the head of the violin section, two hundred in number, stood the world's greatest violinist—Ole Bull. Their bows moved up and down as if in the hand of one man.

Parepa Rose was the soloist of whose singing Dr. Talmage said, "It was never equalled on earth!" When, in the "Star-Spangled Banner," she sang the high C with the fortissimo accompaniment of the full chorus and orchestra, the bells and cannon, it was so loud and clear that it seemed to bury the accompaniment!

The old man's letter closed thus: "I am an old man now, but am looking forward to the music of Heaven where there will be music infinitely superior to the marvelous chorus I listened to that day!"

We shall sing on that beautiful shore
The melodious songs of the blest,
And our spirits shall sorrow no more,
Not a sigh for the blessings of rest!

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

THE UNAVOIDABLE CHRIST

by R. P. Harris

Since Jesus Christ arose from the dead He has a body that cannot be contained. Read John 20:19-31. Biblical and profane history refer to Him from the beginning. The very date on the coin and even the Jews themselves witness the existence of such a person.

Jesus is a unique person in that He was born of a virgin, therefore without sin. No man can explain away the facts made manifest in His unique life. He claims to be One with the Father. He declares His authority, His power, and His position in life as the *only* Lord and Master. He forgave sins, restored lives, and promised a mansion in Heaven to all who believe.

You cannot hide from God. You may shut Him out of your life, but He will still speak to your heart. Jesus stands with us in adversity. He may enter life through sickness or death of a loved one. Man cannot avoid Christ for He is everywhere. All who reject Him crucify Him. Accept Him now and live!

For September 25

GOD IN CHRIST

Lesson Text: John 14:8-11
Memory Verse: Hebrews 1:1, 2

I. INTRODUCTION

It is not easy to make God known to man—even for the Almighty it is not easy. Nothing is too hard for God, of course, but the difficulty is in man. His ability is limited, and all too often he prefers not to know God (Romans 1:28).

Perhaps it would be different if man never had sinned, but it is useless to speculate about that now. All of us have sinned (Romans 3:23), and sinners cannot bear to see God in His glory (Exodus 33:17-23). Not until this mortal has put on immortality (1 Corinthians 15:53) can we see Him face to face (Revelation 22:3, 4).

Nevertheless God can and does reveal Himself to us here and now. His creation speaks of Him so plainly that unbelief is inexcusable (Romans 1:20). His acts in history, such as His rescue of His people from Egypt, also tell much about Him. These revelations are made clearer and more information is added as God speaks to us through inspired prophets. And now we come to yet another revelation of God.

"A word is a spoken or written sign of an idea." So said my fourth-grade grammar book. But when we say, "What's the good word?" we are talking about a message, not just a single word. Or we say the Bible is God's Word, meaning that it is the sum of all His revelations that have been written and preserved for us.

So *word* is a word of many meanings, but in every usage it has to do with communication. Boldly and without stopping to explain, John calls Jesus *the Word* (John 1:1). Jesus is God's communicator. "The only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him" (John 1:18).

This may mean that it was Christ who spoke to Adam in Eden and to Moses at Sinai. At least it means that Jesus in the form of a man revealed God, and that is what this lesson is all about.

The first part of our printed text brings us to the night before Jesus died. In the background is His three-year ministry. It is good to read the whole book of John up to Chapter 14 in preparing this lesson. If time will not allow that, take a few minutes to recall some events you know about. What do they reveal about God? Take a pencil and list two or three things Jesus did to show each of the following: The wisdom of God the power of God, the love of God.

The practical conclusion of this study is well stated in the second chapter of Hebrews. God has spoken to us in His Son. The greatest possible messenger has brought us the greatest possible message, and those who heard Him personally have passed the word to us. "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip" (Hebrews 2:1).

Don't "let them slip." Don't "drift away from them," as the *American Standard Version* has it. Therein lies our danger. We are not atheists. We are not enemies of the Lord. We would never say anything against Him. We are His people, His family. But just because we are so close, because our fellowship is so constant, we may become careless about it. We may neglect the responsibilities we have as God's people. That is why we have a lesson like this. We need to think again how firmly our faith is founded, and how eager we are to live up to it.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. Today's lesson is the last one in Unit I. You will recall that the theme of these lessons has been the various ways God reveals Himself. The first three lessons explored how God is revealed through creation, in history, and through the prophets. All of these reveal important truths about what God is really like. So God chose to become one of us and one with us in Jesus of Nazareth. As Christians we believe that Jesus is the final and supreme revelation of God.

B. Today's passages provide the biblical basis for this belief. Indeed, the whole New Testament, in the final analysis, is the testimony of those who met God in Jesus.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

III. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The great artist, Holman Hunt, told how he "saw" Jesus: "I see Him as He works in His carpentry shop. I walk with Him over the hills of Galilee. I go with Him among the poor and the blind and the lame and the leper. I go with Him to Gethsemane. I will travel with Him to Calvary and carry the Cross with Him to Golgotha. I will walk with Him till I do see Him and then I will paint Him."

Those who have stood with love-filled hearts before Hunt's painting, "The Light of the World," showing Jesus knocking at the closed door, feel convinced that the great painter did see Jesus with eyes of faith.—*The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)*

Now is the right time to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE

(Continued from Page 7)

climbing on Thursday afternoon. Then on Friday afternoon we had a tournament in horseshoes, basketball throws, ping-pong, etc.

Friday night was the best night of all for, we had services as usual followed by a big bonfire. It wouldn't have been complete if we hadn't heard one of the greatest testimonies that anyone has ever shared as "Uncle Ira" McCarson from Durham spoke.

Saturday morning, we got ready to take the trip home. We were sad to leave everyone up there but were rejoicing that 15 precious young souls were won to the Lord that week.

It was a week that we will never forget for it was filled with the Spirit of God and His love. We want to give a big thanks to the Lord for letting us have such a great week. Thank you, Brother James Gurganus and Dean, for your leadership; and a special thanks to all the adults who were up there and worked so hard with us. Thank you, Brother Arnold Price, for the great sermons.

We want to thank the staff of Cragmont; the food was great.

This was a week we will treasure forever.

Ricky Pelletier

IN MEMORY

(Continued from Page 12)

the Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, where he served as deacon, superintendent of the Sunday school, on newsletter committee and building committee. He was a veteran of World War II.

Although we cannot understand why God called him home at this particular time, the fact that God had a reason should comfort us and is better than if we were able to find a dozen reasons. His life was useful and he will be greatly missed by the church and community since he was such an active and faithful brother and deacon of our church. He will long be remembered by his many friends and co-workers.

Surviving are his wife, Margaret V. Briley; a son, Charles Earl Briley of the home; a daughter, Mrs. Malinda B. Heath of the home; mother, Mrs. Mae Briley of the community; two brothers, H. L. Briley of Bethel and James R. Briley of Ogden, Utah; two sisters, Mrs. Edith Cox of Moncure and Mrs. Beth Tatum of Charlotte, and three grandchildren.

You have left a beautiful memory,
And a sorrow too great to be told;
But to us who have loved and lost you,
Your memory will never grow old.

Sweet Gum Grove Church
Obituary Committee

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Julius G. Massey announces that he has a change of address. It is P.O. Box 52, Edenton, North Carolina 27932. If anyone wishes to contact him, they may do so at this address.

Little deeds of kindness,
Little words of love,
Make our earth an Eden,
Like the Heaven's above.

THE TYRANNY OF THINGS

(Continued from Page 15)

biases, yet they demand uncritical loyalty even at the sacrifice of relationships.

When that happens, we no longer hold our convictions; they hold us. And they—at least, mine—tenaciously resist being tested against other, possibly higher, priorities. Though we may possess such ideas in abundance, they do not necessarily contribute to abundant living. Instead, they restrict us, imprison us and subtract from our liberty as sons and daughters of God.

Giving another person space in which to grow—and make mistakes while growing—requires greater trust than the more possessive of us are willing to give. Our unbending biases simply will not allow it. Yet there can be no spiritual reality for us or them without the risk.

Jesus was right. Life is more than meat and drink, houses and land, convictions and prejudices. It is also peace and contentment, love and trust, skipping and dancing.

Oh yes. And meadowlarks.

—Stan Mooneyham
President, World Vision International

Used by permission, *World Vision*, (August, 1982).

DATES TO REMEMBER

September
22—Eastern WA, Leland
24—Central WA, Marlboro

October
5—Albemarle Conference, Free Union, Pinetown
—Western Conference, Trinity, Clayton
13—Albemarle WA, Plymouth Church, Plymouth
16—Pee Dee Association, Pireway, 16 miles east of Tabor City, 9 a.m.
19—Eastern Conference
20—Eastern Conference

November
3—Cape Fear Conference, Robert's Grove, Dunn
10—Central Conference, First Church, Rocky Mount
22—Founder's Day, Mount Olive College
24—Thanksgiving

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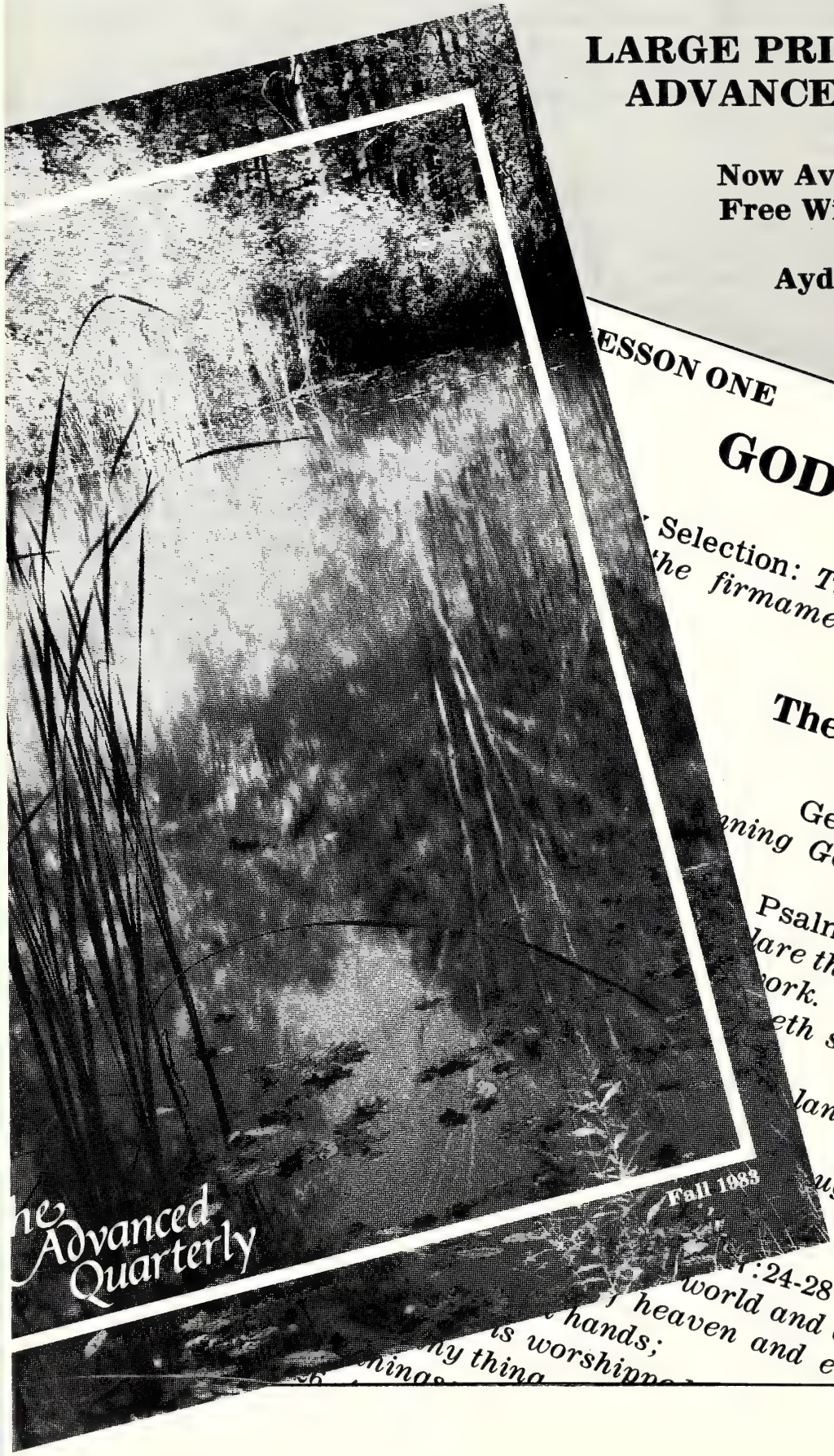

D. S.
(F) F857WB

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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Editorial

Shh! Giant at Rest!

Christ has called us to be active members of a team, not observers of some performance. And although there may be a difference in individual gifts, there is no Christian who is not included in this calling. Each generation has its own particular needs and it is obvious that the crying need of today is for spiritual renewal.

Yes, the pre-eminent need for today is the renewal of the Church. We have all come to recognize the necessity of the Church. It is through this redemptive fellowship that Christ's work is done in the world. But I hasten to add that it is possible to have a church without a redemptive fellowship.

One of the greatest paradoxes of our time is that while many recognize the need of the Church, much of our church life has become poor and dull. We do have a good number of buildings, and we have some large budgets, with some well-paid staffs; but many persons admit that their lives are unchanged. Others relate that their "fires" have not gone out entirely but admit they are merely smouldering. At times I have to ask, how can they help but be? Church members who give their allegiance to everything but the Church during the week **and** the weekend should not look elsewhere when budgets fall short, attendance dwindles, and ministries are threatened.

The strangest part of all of this is that the Church seems the most lifeless at a time when spiritual need is the greatest. The "church requires renewal because the world requires redemption." Where but in the "redemptive fellowship" of Christians are we likely to find the power for change that our times requires? You and I do belong to the heritage of cultural revolution which was said to have "turned the world upside down" (Acts 17:6).

It is possible that part of our present "dullness" has come about because of low aim. We have not expected to make any difference—we have been satisfied with mediocrity—and we have accomplished little or nothing. Mediocre success is relatively easy to achieve. Without much trouble we can collect a modest congregation, put on a performance, take up an offering, and dismiss the people for another week. But I fail to believe that is what Christ intended.

Our inner life must be strengthened if church renewal is to take place. Prayer is perhaps the most audacious effort of which finite man is capable—it is also probably one of the least practiced spiritual "exercises." We do not experience prayer—we merely recite words without directly encountering our Maker. The strength of our inner life can also be developed through study. Our souls hunger for the richness that can be found through the study of God's Word and the writings of others.

If Church renewal is to take place we must also recognize and enlarge the idea of ministry. Part of our weakness rests in the fallacious idea that ministers are identical with clergymen. The Church has become a sleeping giant because

(Continued on Page 15)

PRIME TIME

submitted by De Wayne Eakes

We had just finished supper and I was heading for a meeting. My wife grabbed me. "Do you realize that it's been thirty-two nights since you were home when the children went to bed? Where do we fit into your ministry?" she shouted.

I didn't know. Already frustrated by a never-ending demand on my time, I exploded. "All I get is pressure from home and criticism from the church. There's only one of me, you know. I just don't have enough time!"

"You have twenty-four hours a day," she said, "just like everybody else. It's a matter of priorities."

She was right. I knew it then and I know it now. If I'm not careful, I could spend all my time at the church. I guess I feel more competent as a pastor than I do as a husband or father. But for whatever reason, I manage to average six days and five nights a week at the church. Even that's better than it used to be. But I still struggle to get my job done. Sometimes I feel it's just impossible.

I am the resident theologian, the father of all church happenings, the local expert in evangelism, stewardship, church management and worship. I lead small groups, teach classes, make calls. Some days I feel as though I direct as much activity as the control tower of the city airport, and eleven o'clock comes every Sunday morning, ready or not.

My second year in the ministry, I went to see the doctor, complaining of being tired. "Even wake up tired," I told him.

"Tom," he said as he wrote out an unusual prescription, "take this and you'll be okay." It read:

> Once a day for a week, drive into the heart of Greenwood Cemetery. Look around. Take your time. Notice the tombstones. Then say aloud, "Most of these folks were convinced that the world just couldn't get along without 'em." So slow up! You don't have to save the entire world, not all by yourself.

I didn't take his prescription. And I am still tired.

And I'm not the only one. Our whole society runs revved up. One pastor said, "I live at such a pace, if I miss the first section of a revolving door, it throws my schedule off for the rest of the day." We laugh at him; but we also groan a little. He describes a bit of each of us. We seem to think the only way to succeed is to rush.

An old man carefully drives along the expressway at 40 miles per hour. Cars zoom by, drivers shake their fists at him as they risk a chance to pass. He is a driving hazard.

Finally, a patrolman pulls him over. "Old man," he asks, "do you know why I stopped you?"

(Turn the Page)

"Sure," says the old man, as cars whiz by, "I'm the only one you could catch."

"I'm like that old man, afraid if I slow up, I'll get caught. So, I use long weekends and daylight savings time to squeeze in more work. Some call it "BMB" syndrome—"Behold Me Busy." It's as though I owe it to God to be tired.

Yet it's foolish to think God finds joy in my exhaustion. When I'm tired, I don't think clearly or relate well either to God or other people, including my family. I tell myself that I work best under pressure. But that's not true. I may work harder when I am pushing toward a deadline but that doesn't mean I work better. The truth is, I don't work as well as I would have if I had managed my time better.

More accurately, I should say, if I manage *myself* better in the time I have. Unlike weight or talents, God gives each of us an equal amount of time. We are responsible to Him for our use of it. We never "make time" or "save time." We simply fit ourselves in the time we have.

Today's pastor is in trouble. One study shows that the average workweek for a parish pastor is 66.7 hours. I believe it. Every pastor I know struggles with this matter of time. He is expected to respond to every request for his service, day or night. "I hate to bother you on your day off, but . . ." constantly invades his private time. He seldom escapes the frustration and anxieties of his working day and more ministers now than ever join that increasing alumni of ministerial dropouts. Others who stick it out find their marriages falling apart. A friend of mine said, "Honestly, Tom, if I don't get a break soon, I'm going to hurt somebody. I get so angry at times, it frightens me."

I do too, but I'm doing better. I have made some changes that have put me more in charge of my life. I used to not plan. Every good manager knows that if you fail to plan, you plan to fail. Yet, most mornings I arrived in the office and picked up the first thing that caught my attention. Often before finishing what I started first, I would switch to something else that needed doing. All day long, I leaped from one chore to another until time ran out. Then, I complained about how time flies and what a busy person I was!

Of course, I kept appointments, usually five to ten minutes late. Spent half my traveling time rushing somewhere to be late. It was hard for me to learn but I finally had to admit that even when I planned a time to leave, I seldom left on time. I programmed myself to be late.

Today, I keep a legal pad on which I write out a daily schedule. I make it into a desk calendar with a page for each day, a new pad for each month. I write in what I need to do on future days, such as prepare for a committee meeting, pick up shoes at the shop, or write a letter to Mr. Brown. Some things I schedule months ahead.

Each morning, I check my list for the day and add to it current things I carry in my mind. I write them down, no matter how impossible they might be to forget. This simple procedure eases the continual rush hour pace in which I am prone to live.

With a list visibly before me, it's easy to put things in order of importance. I used to tackle the easiest things first, setting no priority to the most essential. Now, I concentrate on the things that really count. If some of the nonessentials are left undone, it's okay. I've still had a productive day.

I even school myself to do the most dreaded task first. Whether it's making a phone call or working on some project I'd rather not do, I get it out of the way first. That makes the going easier for the rest of the day. Otherwise, I postpone the unpleasant chores and live all day with them hanging over my head.

"A clean desk is a sign of a sick mind," I once jokingly said. I bragged about having a pile of work on my desktop for all to see. But a messy desk clutters. Some of the busiest executives I know keep everything out of sight except the one project on which they are currently working. I strive for that goal, not to become an order-nut. I am working for efficiency, not neatness. A cluttered desk causes confusion and wastes precious time.

I answer or discard all correspondence as it's received. This keeps me from having to reread it. If I need more information before it can be answered, I begin to research it or schedule in my legal pad calendar when I will deal with it. Two other mistakes I still make sometimes have nothing to do with the calendar.

First, I often eat too much for lunch. Then, for an hour or two, I'm dying to take a nap. Though I stick it out at the office, I'm still sluggish. I feel better if I have a light lunch. My waist does, too, but that's another chapter.

The most lasting mistake I make and the most difficult for me to overcome is feeling guilty about the things I don't get done. I come home at night carrying a burden for people I did not see and things I did not do. If guilt were a positive influence and motivated me to do better, it might be worth the destructive agony I carry inside. But guilt never helps. It blocks. Perfectionism grows out of my insecurity, not my faith. It's the result of my fear that God won't accept me unless I earn it.

The good news of Jesus Christ is that we are valuable to God because He loves us, not because we perform. He does not load us down, He sets us free.

Contrary to the impulse to make every minute count, I now think it's important to waste a little time. It keeps me from taking myself too seriously, it gives me an opportunity to think and reorganize. A certain subconscious works when I am out of gear which enables me to work more efficiently later. God seems to work best in me when I have stopped.

God gives us one day in seven to rest. Even Jesus, with all He had to do in such a short time, took time to rest. He said, "Come apart and rest awhile." Our generation seems to be coming apart; we just don't rest!

I have learned to schedule time for rest and to protect it.

From time to time, I slice out a day or two. My wife and I get a live-in baby-sitter and go to a motel. We'll see a movie, eat a good meal, spend time doing other things, eat blueberry pancakes for breakfast, go window shopping and come home. We always have a fuss. Yet we talk and share more in this short 24 hours together than we do in the previous six weeks. At home the only time we have to talk is late at night when the children are in bed. By then, we are tired and don't feel the same way about things when we're tired.

Four years ago, we went through a stage in our marriage when we had to schedule one night a week for us to talk. No matter how late I came home, she would wait up and we just talked. We belonged to a small group of two members.

I also plan prime time with each of my children. It's impossible to be available to all four of them at once. Someone always feels left out. (Usually the older ones, because the little ones demand my attention.) So now I have a night out with Tommy. We go to a ball game, or see a movie. We do whatever Tommy wants to do. It's just the two of us and we can talk uninterrupted. The next free night I have will be Dad's night with Martha for shopping or eating out. Gene is retarded. Going with him to the mall or watching planes take off at the nearby airport not only gives us time together, it allows a more relaxed time back home. Gene loves to go. After special time with Jim, I start over.

This kind of private time with Dad also helps them understand when I say I need some time to be alone with Mother.

On the Christmas tree, I hang I.O.U's to my family. "This card entitles Jimmy to a night of bowling with Dad," or "This card is good for one fishing trip."

It's imperative for all of us "too busy" people to make time for our families. And to make it count!

I have learned to so value our time together that I can say "No" to outsiders. One woman will not speak to me now because I once said, "I'm sorry, but I just don't have time to pray for horse shows." Sometimes, for the sake of a relationship, I will do things because of a friend's interest. But other times, I have to take care of myself by not burning out on low priority requests.

There was a time when I thought it was worth any price to have people say. "That Tom is a good guy!" But I'm not Superman and I can't live up to everyone's expectations. That means I admit my limitations and take charge of my own life. Part of my responsibility is to me. This means I sometimes say "No."

Even Jesus said "No" to some who sought His help. For His own reason, He "withdrew Himself into the wilderness and prayed," (Luke 5:16), leaving behind a multitude who had sought Him out for healing.

Jesus paced Himself. He felt His life was significant. He planned His ministry and took the time He needed for rest.

I believe my life is important, too. When I speak to my governing board about my time on and my time off, it's better for me to announce than to request. No one else can possibly know what my commitments will allow and when my inner being demands that I have a break.

A pastor's emotional life is like a roller-coaster. In one afternoon, I move from the low of conducting a friend's funeral, to hearing a parishioner's verbal attack, to celebrating marriage with a young couple. Sometimes I need to get off the track. It's not fair to me to require someone else's okay for me to stop for awhile.

My friend, John, who serves a neighboring church, limits his work week to fourteen units. Each day has three units; morning, afternoon and night. If John works Monday night, he will

(Continued on Page 13)

TO MINNIE WITH LOVE

submitted by Dot D. Dail

"To Minnie with Love" was the theme of the day as the young people of Bethany Free Will Baptist Church honored Mrs. Minnie Hansley Chandler, Sunday, September 18, 1983, in the morning worship hour. The service was an expression of love and gratitude to Minnie Chandler for all the light, love and guidance she gives to her Bethany Church family and to all whose lives she touches.

A banner of many colors, picturing a lighthouse with the words "To Minnie with Love" was hung on the wall over the altar. Flowers on the altar were placed there by the Clinton Cannon family to honor Mrs. Chandler.

Following the processional to the choir pews the youth choir sang, "Jesus Is Coming" for the call to worship and "Jesus, We Just Want to Thank You," for the choral response for the prayer and meditation time.

The program "To Minnie with Love" was opened with the youth choir singing "Let My Light Shine."

"Minnie Inspirations" given by Kathy Minnick, gave a history of Minnie's service, guidance and faithfulness during the years of the pastorate of the Rev. A. B. and Minnie Chandler at Bethany Church. Emphasis was placed on her work with young people as Mrs. Chandler helped the youth to set goals and achieve them. In reminiscing she mentioned many fun activities they shared. Her treasured memories included Mrs. Chandler's return to the Bethany Community to make her home.

A lovely lighthouse, a symbol of the light of Christ that shines through Minnie's life, was presented as a gift to her. Karen Wainright prefacing her remarks by reading Matthew 5:13-16 said, "This lighthouse is a symbol of the light and love you have given to us not only at Bethany, but wherever you are. You are a bright and shining light. Our world needs lights like you, Minnie. The light and love of Christ shining through you is an inspiration—especially to the young people in your church family here.

"May this lighthouse always be a reminder of our gratitude for your help in lighting our way. Like you, we will let our lights shine for others. Thank you for your loving and glowing example."

"Each Step I Take" was sung by the Bethany trio—Louise Wainright, Helen Craft, and Judy Bowen.

A gift to the A. B. and Minnie Chandler Scholarship Fund at Mount Olive College was presented by Tommy Rouse.

That all who follow after us at Bethany Church may know of the love and esteem Bethany Church holds for Minnie Chandler, Jolly Dail presented a plaque to be placed in the historical room. In tribute to Mrs. Chandler he said, "Mrs. Chandler, as our Sunday school teacher, you were always anxious to make the words and the gospel of the Bible become a permanent part of our hearts and lives. You realized the importance of remembering, for the Word of God speaks so often of remembering.

"You have spent much time in writing histories of families and church groups so that they would be remembered. You worked so diligently in the historical room here at Bethany Church that people would remember and appreciate our history and our heritage.

"Today we remember you with our love. Today is *To Minnie with Love.* You will always be in our hearts and lives for each one of us is so grateful for the special way you touch our lives. So that others who come here after us will know the special place you hold in our hearts, this plaque will be placed in the historical room. As long as Bethany serves as a witness for Christ, people will know that Minnie Chandler was a part of this witness and was loved by all who knew her."

In presenting the plaque he read

Presented to
Minnie Chandler
from Bethany Church Family
in humble gratitude
for her faithfulness and love
September 18, 1983.

"Gift of love," a love offering from the Bethany young people, was presented by Terri Craft and Angela Wainright. Borrowing from the poet they said,

She is different, she is special
Unique in a thousand ways,
She is giving, she is loving
And we'll love her all our days.

There are those who covet fame,
And court it like a beau;
There are those who covet wealth
Kneeling in its glow.
But she is different.

There are some who strive for praise,
They yearn for world applause,
There are some who chase sweet comfort
As their one and only cause.
But she is different.

Because you see
She is different, she is special
Unique in a thousand ways,
She is loving, she is giving,
And we'll love her, love her, love her.
all our days.

Acknowledging that no gift they could wrap would adequately express their love for Mrs. Chandler, it was their desire that she know that with the gift came the giver.

"The Bond of Love" was sung by Kathy Minnick.

The Rev. C. L. Patrick, pastor of Bethany, brought the message, "Let Your Light Shine" from Matthew 5:13-16. The message taught how important it is to let the light of Christ shine through our lives that we will bring glory to God. Truly, this is an example of the way Mrs. Minnie Chandler lives her life. The focus of the inspiration when applied to our lives is found in Paul's writing to the church at Corinth when Paul said in First Corinthians 10:31 ". . . whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

The invitation hymn was "My Jesus, I Love Thee." All of the musical selections are favorites of Mrs. Chandler's.

Mr. Patrick, on closing the service, presented a beautiful red rose, a gesture of love and caring to Mrs. Kaye Chandler Williams, Minnie's daughter, to be carried to Mrs. Chandler.

Friends from other churches shared in the service to honor Minnie Chandler. Young people who were a part of the youth work while Mr. and Mrs. Chandler pastored Bethany but who have since grown up, leaving this church family for another, returned to be a part of this special day. They left recorded messages for Mrs. Chandler.

As another day of history was recorded at Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, it will be for all to remember that our church family did pause to give thanks to God for the life, love, and light of Minnie Hansley Chandler.

News & Notes

Upcoming Events for Winterville Church

The Christian Fellowship Class of Winterville Church announces the Annual Harvest Sale on Saturday, October 1, at the Winterville Fire Station. Crafts and baked goods will be on sale at 10 a.m. Hot dogs, along with other goodies, will be sold from 11:30—1 p.m. A chicken pastry dinner will be served at 4:30-6 p.m. The Oak Grove Boys of Elm City will be singing from 6-7 p.m. The auction sale will begin at 7 p.m. to close out the day.

The proceeds will go to the building fund. Everyone is invited.

The Winterville Church will observe Homecoming on October 9. A special program entitled "A Farewell Memorial to the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church on Depot Street" will be at 10 a.m. Dinner will be served on the grounds, weather permitting. In the event of rain the dinner will be served across town in the new church facility. (Plans are to move into the new church in the near future.) The Rev. Ed Taylor and the congregation extend a warm welcome to all friends to attend.

The Rev. Robert May

The Rev. Robert May of Ahoskie will be the visiting evangelist for revival services at the Winterville Church, October 10-14, 7:30 p.m. He will be assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Ed Taylor. Special singing will be featured each night.

Revival and Homecoming At Hugo Church

Revival services are scheduled at Hugo Church, Route 2, Grifton, October 3-7, at 7:30 each evening. The Rev. Ray Williamson, pastor of Gum Swamp Church, will be the evangelist.

On Sunday, October 9, the church will observe its annual Homecoming with the Rev. Tom Miller, pastor, bringing the morning message. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend these services.

Revival and Homecoming to Be at New Bethlehem Church

Revival services will be held at New Bethlehem Church, near Grantsboro, October 3-7, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Harry Bryan will be the guest speaker, assisted by the pastor, the Rev. A. Graham Lane. There will be special music each night.

On Sunday, October 9, the church will have its annual

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homecoming. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Homecoming and Revival at Pleasant Plain Church

Homecoming will be observed at Pleasant Plain Church, Route 2, Selma, on Sunday, October 9, 1983. Sunday school will be at 10 a.m. The Rev. N. D. Wiggs, former pastor, will be bringing the 11 a.m. message. Lunch will be at 12 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. There will be no afternoon service. All former members and pastors are invited.

Revival will begin on Monday, October 10, and will continue through Friday, October 14, with services beginning each night at 7:30. There will be special music each night. The Rev. Luby Tyner of Yelverton Grove Church will be the guest evangelist.

The Rev. Ernie Price, pastor of the church, invites the public to attend these services.

Harvest Day at Sandy Plain Church

Harvest Day will be observed on Sunday, October 16, 1983, at Sandy Plain Church, near Pink Hill. The Sunday school will begin at 9:45 a.m. The morning worship service will begin at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Ralph Sumner bringing the message. Dinner will be served in the educational building. Everyone is invited to stay and enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us.

There will be special singing immediately following the lunch time with different groups from the local churches taking part.

The pastor, the Rev. Ransom McAbee, and the church invite all former members and former pastors and friends to come and enjoy the day of worship and fellowship with the people at Sandy Plain.

Lay Witness at Westside Church

There will be a lay witness mission at Westside Church on the weekend of September 30—October 1 and 2. The church is located at 1205 Lynn Drive in Kinston. The Rev. Wayne King is the pastor. Lay witness coordinator is Dr. Bob Moye, and Jack Everett serves as General Chairperson. The public is invited to attend. Everyone is expecting a great time in the Lord. The services will start at 6:30 p.m. Friday with a covered dish supper. A nursery will be provided.

Mount Olive Day at Spring Branch

Spring Branch Church, Walstonburg, North Carolina, has designated Sunday, October 9, 1983, as Mount Olive Day. Morning services will be at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be delivering the morning messages. The pastor, the Rev. Dale Albertson, and the members of the church extend a warm invitation.

Homecoming Announcement at Spring Branch

Spring Branch Church of Walstonburg, North Carolina, will have its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 2, 1983. Morning services will begin 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. with dinner being served at noon. All former members, friends, and neighbors of the church are extended a warm invitation by the church membership and their pastor, the Rev. Dale Albertson.

Homecoming and Revival At Christian Chapel Church

Homecoming services will be held on October 2, at Christian Chapel Church, Pink Hill, Route 1, at 11 a.m.

Revival services will be held October 3-7, at 7:30 each evening, with the Rev. Donald Coats as guest speaker. The Rev. Edward Miles is the pastor. Everyone is welcomed to these services.

Robert's Grove to Have Homecoming

The Rev. Bobby Taylor

Robert's Grove Church, Route 1, Dunn, will observe Homecoming Day on October 2. The Rev. Bobby R. Taylor, executive director of the Children's Home, will bring the morning message. Following the service, a picnic lunch will be served. A singspiration featuring The New Life Singers will be in the afternoon. Everyone is invited to come and share in these services.

Smyrna Church Sunday School Pupils Receive Pins

A total of 259 years of perfect attendance was realized recently at Smyrna Church, Route 6, Dunn, Cape Fear Conference, when Sunday school perfect attendance pins were presented. A 30-year pin was presented to Mrs. Doris Tart.

Charlie Norris received a pin for 25 years perfect attendance and Mrs. Doris Godwin received her pin for 24 years. Other presentations of pins were made: Herman McLamb and Graylon Noles received a 19th year, Wilma Parker received a 14th, Doris Jean Parker and Amy Smith received their 13th year and Robert Godwin and Daren Parker each received their 12th year.

Receiving 11th year pins were Jenny Barefoot, Sherry Barefoot, Jim David Worley; Susan Parker and William Blackman each received their 10th year and Rebecca

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Barefoot received a 9th, Lori Godwin received a 6th, Joy Lee received a 4th and Herman Raynor received his 1st year.

Sunday school superintendent Kenneth Raynor made the presentation.

Ninety-seventh Session of Western Conference to Meet

The Ninety-seventh Annual Session of the Western Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina will be held at Trinity Church, near Clayton, on October 13, 1983. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:20—Hymn
9:35—Devotions, the Rev. Wayne Watson
9:50—Welcome, the Rev. Lloyd Hargis
—Response, the Rev. Graham Faucette
—Roll Call of Ministers, Clerk
—Roll Call of Churches, Clerk
—Recognition of Visitors, Moderator
—Moderator's Remarks, the Rev. Clyde Cox
—Partial Report of Credentials Committee
—Business Session
10:45—Report of Home Missions
—Report of Foreign Missions
11:00—Hour of Worship
—Offering
—Special Music, Host Church
—Conference Message, the Rev. Royce Reynolds
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Devotions, the Rev. Bobby Jones
1:10—Report of Cragmont
—Report of Superannuation
—Report of Mount Olive College
—Report of Church Finance Association
—Report of Children's Home
—Report of Retirement Homes
—Report of Carolina Bible Institute
—Report of Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
—Report of Board of Ordination
—Report of State Convention
—Report of Executive Committee
—Report of Temporary Committees
—Report of Credentials Committee
—Report of Treasurer
—Final Business Session
—Closing Devotions, the Rev. Edmundo Gonzalez
—Adjournment

Song Leader, the Rev. Royster Martin
Pianist, Host Church

Annual Fall Harvest Sale to Be Held

Casey's Chapel Church of Goldsboro will hold its First Annual Harvest Sale on Saturday, October 8, at the Elroy Volunteer Fire Department, Highway 70 East, beginning at 9 a.m. and continuing through the day. Events throughout the day will include crafts, baked goods, along with hot dogs and drink sales.

Area businesses have donated many items which will be given away during the day as door prizes. A barbecue dinner will be held from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Advance tickets may be obtained by calling 735-7947 after 6 p.m.

The evening will continue with a gospel sing by "The Watchmen Quartet." Following the gospel sing, an auction will be held. Various items will be auctioned such as quilts, cakes and other items made and donated by various auxiliaries and members within the church.

All proceeds from the harvest sale will go towards the building fund of the church. The pastor of Casey's Chapel Church is the Rev. Bryant Hines Jr.

Albemarle Conference to Meet

The Thirty-ninth Annual Session of the Albemarle Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina will be held at Free Union Church, Pinetown, on Wednesday, October 5, 1983. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Devotions, Mrs. Betty Whitley
9:40—Welcome, Mr. J. T. Keech
—Response, the Rev. Charlie Overton
9:45—Conference Called to Order
—Adoption of Program as the Order of Business
—Enrollment of Churches
—Enrollment of Ministers and Delegates
—Delegates from Other Church Bodies
10:15—Moderator's Address
—Appointment of Temporary Committees: Resolution, Temperance, Nominating
—Morning Offering
—Report of Standing Boards: Executive Board, Board of Trustees, Board of Education, Board of Missions, Board of Ordination
11:20—Announcements
11:25—Special Music, Host Church
—Message, the Rev. Donald Fader
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Devotion, the Rev. Charles Parrish
1:10—Memorial Service, the Rev. Joe Griffith
1:20—Report of State Convention
—Report of Mount Olive College
—Report of Free Will Baptist Press, Inc.
—Report of Children's Home
—Report of Retirement Home
—Report of Board of Superannuation
—Report of Cragmont
—Report of Church Finance Association
—Report of Foreign Missions
—Report of Home Missions and Church Extension
2:10—Business Meeting: Report of Temporary Committees, Report of Treasurer, Appointment of Delegates of Church Bodies, Announcement of Next Conference, Reading of Minutes
—Adjournment and Benediction

Piney Grove Church Has Homecoming

Sunday, September 11, was a great day for Piney Grove Church, Route 1, Greenville, as they observed Homecoming Day. The Rev. Allan Sterbin, pastor, brought a very inspiring message. A memorial service was held in memory of Mrs. Sally Little and Mrs. Louise Tyson. Flowers were given by the daughters of Mrs. Sally Little.

A bountiful lunch was served on the grounds; and "Happy Birthday" was sung to Mrs. Fannie Mae Hines who was 80 years old. Everyone enjoyed this day as it permitted them to be with friends and members.

If we cannot do great things, we can do small things in a great way.

MY TESTIMONY
(Part 2)

Charles Barnard

Not long ago I shared with you what I consider to be the most nagging question in my life. That question is "Why?" Why become a missionary?

Jesus so beautifully expressed the young child's period of innocence in His answer to the disciples' question of who would be greatest in Heaven. In Matthew 18:1-6 you can find this account. Humility is the theme of this text. Humility denotes dependence and subjection. A child is one who must totally depend upon another for his well-being. This child-like humility should be the most outstanding characteristic of the Christian's life.

Somewhere between the ages of 8 and 13, I began to openly tell others that God had placed His hand upon my life. At the tender age of 10, I went forward after the evening service at youth camp. I did not fully understand why. I believed myself to be saved long before then.

That night, as I shared with others the joy of God's work in my life, a teenage girl listened in. Suddenly she burst out, "You ought to be a missionary." Very matter of factly I answered, "I know!" Why? At that point in my life I would have been shocked to hear such a ridiculous question. My answer to the question why would have been "Why not?"

I'm getting ahead of myself. Some years before I had been asked the age-old question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" I remember answering one evangelist after a revival service in this manner, "When I grow up I'm going to Bible College and become a missionary." Boy, was he caught off guard! My folks talked of this for quite a while after it happened.

How did this all come about? What would influence a young lad to speak so boldly? Do such youthful statements ever "pan out"? Yes!

I know that living in a mission-minded home, attending a mission-minded church, and being exposed often to visiting missionaries had a great impact upon my life. To me being a missionary was nothing exotic, mysterious, or super-religious. It was just something to be expected of a grown-up Christian.

The really wonderful thing was how my parents never tried to talk me out of my conviction or to push me into following it. In later years, as my calling became a reality, my dad confided to me how he and my mom had constantly offered me to God for His service. How I appreciate this!

When my parents dedicated their children to the Lord there were no exception clauses. It was not, "God, we dedicate our child to you, to be yours and to serve you in any capacity except that of a missionary." No! It was, "Lord, here he is. He ain't much, but he is all yours. If it pleases you we would be honored to have him become a pastor or missionary."

I have always known that God had a purpose in bringing me to life. He has a purpose for all lives. Even yours! Meditate upon the words of Jeremiah the prophet from the first chapter of the book that bears his name, Verses 4 through 7. "Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Before I formed thee in the belly, I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child; for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak."

Next time I will share my teen years or "Period of Rebellion" with you. Pray with me that the Lord will use this series of articles to touch a tender cord in the hearts of His people.

Charles Barnard

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. Samuel J. Johnson wishes to announce that he is now available for part-time or full-time pastoral work. He is a member in good standing with the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. He may be reached by writing to him at Route 1, Box 236, Middlesex, NC 27557; telephone 284-3498.

The following taunting statement by an atheist made William Booth a zealous Salvationist: "If I believed what you Christians say you believe about a coming judgment, and that impenitent rejectors of Christ will be lost, I would crawl on my bare knees on crushed glass all over London, warning men, night and day, to flee for refuge from the coming day of wrath!"

LAOTIAN PASTOR SPEAKS AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Pastor Wa Lo Lee of California (right) is shown with Doua Moua, a student at Mount Olive College, as they discuss missionary work with their people.

Mount Olive students were "called to" home mission service in California by Pastor Wa Lo Lee in his talk at Chapel on September 13. "There are 50,000 Laotians in the United States, 35,000 in California alone," Pastor Lee declared, "and what about the thousands who need to know about Christ? I ask you students to accept the challenge. Come to California next summer and work in the Lao Evangelical Church." Pastor Lee invited four students to work with him in the California congregations. Workers would serve in Fresno, Banning, Santa Ana, and Merced.

A large number of Laotian people were brought to the United States to prevent their being exterminated by the communists. These people supported the United States efforts in Southeast Asia and after we withdrew our armed forces the communists marked the H'mong tribe for extinction.

The Rev. Bob Harber, Free Will Baptist missionary to the Laotians, who accompanied Pastor Lee on his visit to Mount Olive said, "The needs and potential are great. We need your prayers and support."

Laotian young people receive educational opportunities at Mount Olive College. Two students have graduated in 1983. True Moua now attends Cal State University in Long Beach and Kao Blong attends Fresno State. Blong's responsibilities include his position as Acting Pastor of the Fresno Lao Evangelical Church. Currently on campus is religion major Doua Moua, who served with Mr. Harber as an interpreter this past summer.

With Mr. Harber and Pastor Lee was Pastor Mouachou Mouanoutoua who has been in this country for six years. The ministers expressed their gratitude to the Free Will Baptist Church and to Mount Olive College. As Pastor Lee put it, "The hope of the world lies with you young people. I want each of you to remember that. Serve your people, your state, and your country well."

PRESENTATION TO JOHNSTON UNION

The purpose and ministry of CONTACT, Johnston County, a 24-hour Christian Crisis Intervention telephone service, was presented to the Johnston Union Church recently. Calvin R. Mercer, professor of religion at Mount Olive College, made the presentation.

Mercer was invited to the church by the Rev. Floyd Cherry, interim pastor. Mercer is active in the CONTACT counseling service and is a member of the organization's Board of Directors.

MERCER, SELMA SPEAKER

Calvin Mercer, professor of religion at Mount Olive College, was the guest speaker recently at the Selma Church in Selma, North Carolina. The Rev. Gene Britt is pastor.

Mercer teaches Bible, theology, and ethics courses at the College and is available for speaking engagements. He resides in Smithfield, North Carolina.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DAY AT FREE UNION CHURCH

Free Union Church in Greene County will observe Sunday (October 2) as Mount Olive College Day. The Rev. Calvin Heath, pastor, has announced that Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of the College, will teach a combined session of adult Sunday school classes at 10 a.m. and also preach during the morning worship service.

Dr. Raper will give a progress report on College Hall, a $3 million physical education-athletic-convention center, which is scheduled for completion in January. He will also report on plans for the development of Mount Olive into a four-year college beginning in 1984.

COMING EVENTS

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October 5—Albemarle Conference, Free Union Church, Pinetown

October 13—Western Conference, Trinity Church near Clayton

October 15—Pee Dee Association Annual Meeting, Pireway Church, 16 miles east of Tabor City, 9 a.m.

October 19, 20—Eastern Conference

October 30—Mount Olive College Day in Local Churches

October 30—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention, First Church, Tarboro

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

Scripture Reading—Acts 8:26-40; 9:1-25

HOW CHICAGO FIRE STARTED

Many years ago, in 1871 in Chicago a woman was milking her cow, and there was a little lamp of oil, a little flickering flame. The cow kicked over the lamp, and the flame kindled a wisp of hay, and another wisp, until all the hay in the stable was on fire, and the next building was on fire, and the next, and the next! The fire spread over the river to the main part of Chicago and swept on until, within a territory one mile wide and three miles long, there were only two buildings standing. The little flame from that lamp had laid Chicago in ashes! If the fire of God shall fall now, you may be only a little wisp of hay, but if it sets you on fire, the fire will communicate itself to another, and that to another.

It will burn on and on, till the remotest part of the earth is touched by the holy fire of God.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

Scripture Reading—Acts 9:26—10:22

MIGHTY LITTLE THINGS

Do you know that one speck of dust in an automatic flight-control instrument is sufficient to cause a multimillion-dollar supersonic jet airplane to veer widely off its course?

Do you know that lint from clothing and moisture from fingerprints can make a guided missile, zooming along at twice the speed of sound, go awry, and miss its mark?

Do you know that smog and humidity can cause intricate flight instruments to fail and endanger the success of vital military missions?

G. M. Giannini, a noted American scientist, says all this is so! This is a reminder that there are many tiny things that can cause the finest specimen of humanity to go awry and miss the glorious destiny which his Maker has made possible for him to enjoy.

It is not necessary to commit some glaring evil in order to become a failure spiritually.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

Scripture Reading—Acts 10:23-48; 11

WHAT CAN I DO?

It is my job to do the task
That I can find to do.

I cannot sing an anthem sweet,
But I can find an empty seat
And listen with devoted care
While someone lifts his heart in prayer.

I cannot play the organ grand,
But I can clasp a stranger's hand
And smile and say a word of cheer.
Who knows? It may dispel a fear
And help that one upon his way,
If I can just the right word say.

I cannot preach a sermon great,
But when the offering they take
I can be honest with my Lord
And freely give of my small hoard.
And I can bring a flower fair,
So God's own house will look less bare.

These little things that I can do
Seem, oh, so small, and far too few,
But if I'm watchful of them all,
When His dear voice to me shall call,
I'll say, "Here, Lord! And all I bring
Is faithfulness in little things."

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

Scripture Reading—Acts 12, 13:1-13

I SHALL COME FORTH AS GOLD!

Derby china is made in Derby, England. It is also called Crown Derby, because a royal warrant is issued authorizing its manufacture. It is widely sought and is highly prized by those who possess it. One day a minister visited the factory where Derby china is made. He saw artisans apply varicolored paints to the china—yellowish-brown, bluish-black and dirty-looking red. They circled the edge of the china with black paint. How unattractive was the china when it was put into the furnace. But the fire wrought an amazing transformation. When it was taken from the furnace, the minister looked in wonderment upon the exquisitely beautiful pieces of china! The black had become a bright gold. The blue and the red had become lustrous and bright.

In the unerring wisdom of God, some of His choicest saints are disciplined and conformed to the image of Christ in the furnace of sorrow and suffering.

Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction (Isaiah 48:10).

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

Scripture Reading—Acts 13:40-52, 14

GOD'S WAY IS THE BEST WAY

God never would send the darkness
If He knew you could stand the light,
But you would not cling to the Guiding Hand,
If the way were always bright;
And you would not care to walk by faith,
Could you always walk by sight.

'Tis true He has many an anguish
For your sorrowful heart to bear,
And many a cruel thorn-crown
For your tired head to wear;
He knows how few would reach Heaven at all
If pain did not guide them there.

So He sends you the blinding darkness,
And the furnace of sevenfold heat,
'Tis the only way, believe me,
To keep you close to His feet;
For 'tis always so easy to wander
When our lives are glad and sweet.

So nestle your hand in the Father's
And sing, if you can, as you go,
Your song will cheer someone behind you,
Whose courage is sinking low;
And—well, if your lips do quiver,
God will love you the better, so.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

Scripture Reading—Acts 15

THAT WAS SOME TRICK!

The man on the hospital bed had lost his left leg. He was bitter. As I walked slowly toward him, he began, "Well, Chaplain, start cheering me up! You're a navy specialist; so do your stuff." I felt helpless to help him that day.

Next day a young marine corporal in a wheel chair rolled up to his bed. The marine was grinning generously, though both his legs were missing. No sarcasm came from the navy man this time. Here suffering had met suffering and understood; courage had encountered despair and won.

On my visit that afternoon, the navy man looked at me accusingly through a smile. "Chaplain," he said, "that was some trick—sending me that marine amputee. But it worked, I guess. The nurse just said I have become a pretty decent fellow."

In our witnessing we can be more effective if we get self out of the way and present the One who understands because He suffered and overcame.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

Scripture Reading—Acts 16:1-24

I KNOW HOW IT FEELS

Dr. Stuart Nye Hutchinson tells us about a boy whom he knew who had lost his right hand. He felt so badly about it that he did not want to see anyone. His father said, "I'm going to bring the minister in to see you." The boy said, "I don't want to see him." But the father brought the minister. When the boy looked up, he saw that the minister had no right arm; there was an empty sleeve. He came over to the boy and said, "I haven't any hand, either. I lost mine when I was a boy, and I know how it feels." It wasn't hard for the boy to get acquainted with the minister who knew how it felt.

So Christ has suffered for us and knows our temptations.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

FEATURE

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take off Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning. He claims seven units a week as his own.

Another friend in ministry takes the first seven days of each quarter as vacation. His contract allows a month each year, so he claims the first week every quarter, no matter on which day it starts. He comes back on the eighth day. "It's great," he told me, "I'm always either just getting home from a vacation or getting ready to go on one."

I don't need nor can I manage that much time. But I have discovered this. If I do my job, if I lead exciting worship services, communicate to the members of the congregation that I care for them. If I plan programs the congregation can look forward to, see that we have good Christian education, and manage to keep a balanced budget, *then I can do anything else I need to do, without criticism.* However, let me fail in any of these "rent paying" responsibilities and I can't seem to do anything without someone's reaction. My time off directly relates to the quality of ministry I offer.

These changes in life-style make me a better pastor than working 32 nights in a row. It's better at home, too.—Thomas L. Are, Atlanta, Georgia

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Sunday School Lesson

For October 2

THE PROBLEM: SIN

Lesson Text: Jeremiah 2:9-13; Romans 1:18, 28-32; 2:1, 11
Memory Verse: Romans 3:23

I. INTRODUCTION

Sin! Our lesson title calls it *the problem,* and indeed it is. It is the huge centrifugal problem that spins off all of mankind's problems. If we were perceptive enough to trace all things to their causes, no doubt we would see that every evil in the world is the result of sin.

Adam's appetite for forbidden fruit brought death to him and all of us (Genesis 2:17; Romans 5:12), but that was not all. It brought a curse on the earth itself (Genesis 3:17, 18). The whole creation became corrupt, not to be restored until redemption is complete (Romans 8:19-22).

Often it seems that we take sin too lightly. We pass it off with a shrug; we make jokes about it. But sin is no laughing matter. Sin is a killer!

'Taint my sister, 'taint my brother,
But it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need o' prayer.

Thus the old song personalizes the need of prayer. And why am I standing in the need of prayer? One reason is sin—not just Adam's sin, not sin in general, not the sins of the whole world, but *my* sin. I personally have sinned. I am guilty. And I have problems, even though I am a follower of Christ.

By the grace of God I have been redeemed, yes. My sin has been taken away. I have been cleansed, purified. I am one of God's own people, not by any merit of my own, but because of Jesus.

That does not mean I am no longer concerned about sin. The devil is still on the prowl, like a lion longing to gobble me up (1 Peter 5:8). I need to be alert, on guard constantly. Sin is still a killer, but it will not kill me unless I return to sin's ways.

This lesson has its background in Adam's sin, and mine—in all the sins of the world through all the ages of history. Almost any book of the Bible could furnish texts for such a lesson, but three brief passages have been chosen. The first portrays the basic sin of all. The second lists some sins that result from the basic one. The third reminds us that sin is sin, regardless of who does it.

Paul paints a sad and gloomy picture of those who do not like to have God in their knowledge. When He is shut out there remains no eternal and unchanging standard of right. People sink swiftly into wrong, and so into "indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish" (Romans 2:8, 9). The picture shows the sadder when we read that "all have sinned" (Romans 3:23), and our minds and hearts confirm it. *We* are sinners. Dare we get even more personal? Stop and think for a minute. Can you pinpoint one sin of your own? Don't tell anyone about it, unless you want to apologize privately to someone you have wronged. But talk with God. He knows about it already, of course, but it will do you good to confess to Him.

"The wrath of God is revealed from Heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men"—even ours. First Corinthians 6:9, 10 speaks of sinners like those described in our text. It says they "shall not inherit the kingdom of God." Revelation 22:15 confirms this: they are left out of the holy city.

"There is no respect of persons with God." Jeremiah pleaded with His own chosen people to abandon their "broken cisterns" and come back to Jehovah, "the fountain of living waters." They did not do it, and they went into captivity in Babylon. Christians likewise can fall away so horribly that it is impossible "to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh" (Hebrews 6:4-6).

That sad picture is eclipsed by the good news, the gospel, "for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" (Romans 1:16). Sinners are shut out of God's kingdom, but Paul adds, "But ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:9-11). "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

We can hardly leave this sad study without a glance at the glad good news. To the very people who had crucified Jesus it came: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:38). To Christians John wrote, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Praise the Lord!—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. POINTS TO PONDER

A. Is there any significance in the fact that the central letter of the word "sin" is an "I"?

B. What is the difference between sin and sins, if there is any? Do we not tend to identify sin with sinful actions like drinking or swearing? If the essence of sin is such sinful actions, then could not sin be done away with by just avoiding such actions? But would this not be like just treating the symptoms rather than the cause? What is sin, anyway?

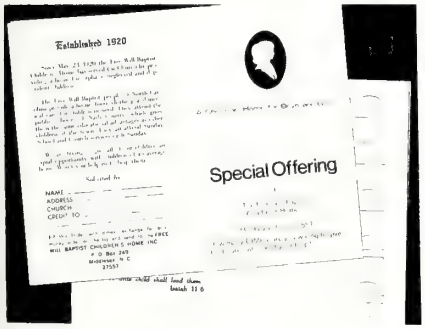
—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

CHILDREN'S HOME

WILSON EXCHANGE CLUB VISITS THE HOME

On Thursday, September 15, 1983, the Exchange Club of Wilson visited the campus. During their visit they shared a cookout for all residents of the Children's Home and Retirees. After the meal the members of the club visited with the children and retirees. This was the eleventh year the Exchange Club has visited the campus and provided a cookout. We wanted to take this opportunity to render a special Thank You for their contribution and faithfulness.

SPECIAL ENVELOPES



Pictured above are Special Offering coin envelopes for use by Free Will Baptist Churches as a promotional item in collecting special offerings for the Children's Home. These envelopes are available upon written request. Just write to the office at the Children's Home (P.O. Box 249, Middlesex, NC 27557) and let us know how many your church needs.

We thank you for considering us for special offerings.

THANK YOU, FIRST CHURCH OF WILLIAMSTON

At the State Convention, the Williamston Church sent a box of towels and wash cloths to the Home. We wish to extend a special thank you for your help. The pastor is the Rev. Ronnie Mohn.

Bobby R. Taylor
Executive Director

HOME MISSIONS

PRINCETON MISSION STARTED

Left to right: the Rev. Floyd Smith, pastor; Mrs. Smith, treasurer; Mrs. Joseph Wall, pianist; Mr. Wall, Sunday school superintendent.

A new Mission was started September 4, by the Cape Fear Missions Board. The Rev. Floyd Smith is serving as pastor. At the first service nine persons attended and twelve were present for the Sunday night service. The revival which was held September 5-9 was attended by visitors from Lanwood Chapel, Tee's Chapel, and Catalpa Church.

All churches in the Cape Fear Conference are asked to assist this work with their prayers and financial gifts. Any donations are to be sent to: Mr. H. T. Hinson, Route 2, Box 332, Dunn, NC 28334.

Rev. Alton Howard, *Chairman*
Rev. Arnold Price
Rev. T. C. Farmer
Rev. Mike Scott
Mr. Leo Bass

Nothing is great without God, and nothing is small with God. When God is in it, little is much.

NOTICE

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and its bookstores in New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston, and Whiteville will be closed Friday, September 30, 1983, for inventory. The bookstores will open on Saturday at their usual times.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

so many attenders are (at least feel they are) completely free from the call to minister. With a clear conscience they easily say, "Leave it to the preacher." They feel as though they are excused from such because they give a small portion of their earnings to the church. (When will we ever realize the difference between a tithe and an offering? When will we understand the true meaning of commitment?)

The third condition for Church renewal is theological. When our lives are centered in Christ, when we are committed to His cause, something important is going to take place, something important is bound to occur. But we seem to be more committed to everything in the world. Until we give God and His cause first place we cannot expect Church renewal and growth.

The central conviction of those who lead committed lives is that God truly is. The wonder of this is overwhelming. It demands radical consequences in our lives and in our relationships with others . . . not apathetic yawns!

To Minnie . . .

Two things are all we can say: 'Thank you; and we love you.

Your Many Friends at the Point

The Gift of Friendship

by Helen Steiner Rice

Friendship is a priceless gift
That cannot be bought or sold,
But its value is far greater
Than a mountain made of gold—
For gold is cold and lifeless,
It can neither see nor hear,
And in the time of trouble
It is powerless to cheer—
It has no ears to listen,
No heart to understand,
It cannot bring you comfort
Or reach out a helping hand—
So when you ask God for a Gift,
Be thankful if He sends
Not diamonds, pearls or riches,
But the love of real true friends.

D.S.
fF857wB

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 98 Number 37

October 5, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan

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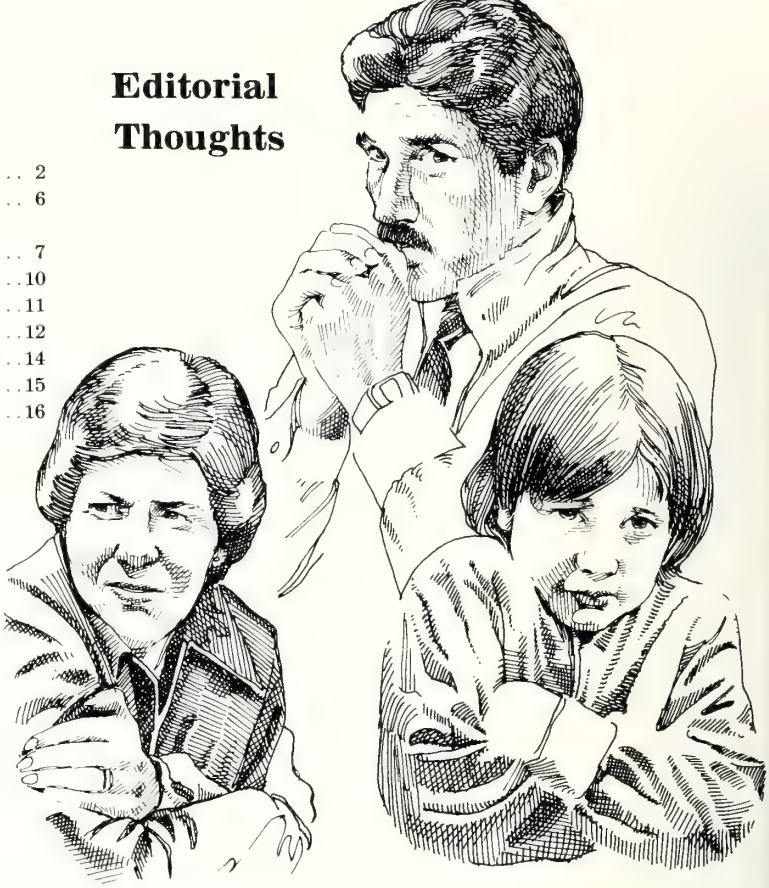
Editorial Thoughts



Our Call to Minister

"Each one of us has some kind of vocation. We are all called by God to share in His life and in His Kingdom. Each one of us is called to a special place in the Kingdom. If we find that place we will be happy. If we do not find it, we can never be completely happy. For each of us, there is only one thing necessary: to fulfill our own destiny, according to God's will, to be what God wants us to be" (Thomas Merton, *No Man Is an Island*).

"Like clouds and wind that bring no rain is the man who boasts of gifts he never gives" (Proverbs 25:14, *NEB*). How often, though, we are admonished to share with others and never told how. Many times we are told to minister and never have it explained to us how to do so. In lieu of an editorial this week, I have prepared some ministry helps for Christians. It is my prayer that they will help and inspire you. (If you enjoy this section, please let me know. A positive response will bring more like it.)

Sharing Your Faith (Without Turning Green)

Many people who tirelessly serve the Lord "turn green" if they are called on to share their faith in words. "It's one thing," they say, "to serve people, but what if I have to explain why I'm doing what I'm doing? Won't they just know by my actions? Do I really have to talk about it?"

Perhaps a lot of our fears stem from a picture we have of the "hit-and-run" evangelist, "one who collars his unsuspecting victim on the streets, forces gospel tracts on him, spews out the plan of salvation without breathing, then moves on to the next poor, lost soul. Maybe we feel as though we have to be a little obnoxious if we are going to be good evangelists." Nothing could be further from the truth.

Here are a few suggestions for sharing your faith without being offensive.

1. **See people as Jesus sees them.** See their needs, their loneliness, their longings.
2. **Reach out.** We must learn to serve others no matter what.
3. **Love people where they are.** Accept people just as they are without compromising your Christian standards.
4. **Love others as we are.** Our message is not that we have it "all together." Our message is that we know the One who does. We should be ourselves and let God work through us.
5. **Be salt and light.** We cannot be insulated and isolated from the world. We were commanded to penetrate it.
6. **Expose, don't impose your faith.** We cannot make someone a Christian. We must remember to let our faith be known without trying to foist it off on those we meet. An aggressive style sometimes reveals a misunderstanding of the role of the Holy Spirit.
7. **Take it easy.** Relax. Remember, it is the job of the Holy Spirit to deal with souls. This does not give us reason to be sloppy or lack diligence.
8. **Get rid of God-talk.** We should learn to explain the plan of salvation in plain language. The usage of biblical words and concepts may turn people off or alienate them.
9. **Ask leading questions.** We often allow ourselves to be put on the defensive by letting others question us. But when we begin by seeking information, we can arouse curiosity in others, while helping them see how much understanding they may be lacking.
10. **Help them see holes in their own system.** When talking with people, we can stimulate interest in the gospel by helping them see the weaknesses in their present views of life. When others clarify their ideas, they may be surprised to find out how unsupported their beliefs are. This should be done quite tactfully.

Showing You Care

Caring must be at the heart of any ministry. But despite all the good will in the world, we sometimes just don't know how to help. The situation our friend faces may seem so serious that we feel overwhelmed and totally incapable of giving comfort. Then again, those around us may not seem to want our help.

Here are some ideas about how you can show you are concerned—during crises **and** calm times.

When a crisis comes we always say, "If there's anything I can do, just let me know." Often, though, the other person doesn't know what to suggest. Don't wait to be told—anticipate needs. Whenever you hear of a crisis, focus your attention on immediate needs first.

Find out if others in the family need to be contacted. Do children need to be picked up at school? What arrangements need to be made for them? Do meals need to be planned? If you do not know the individual too well, contact someone who is close; and by all means, let the minister know!

At this point, your friend needs support more than a lecture. There will be plenty of time for you to provide spiritual insights later. Let the immediate crisis pass first. (Do be sure to watch for ways to affirm God's care for the friend in need.)

When someone dies, stifle the urge to say, "I know how you feel," unless you really do. (Even if you do, don't reminisce about it.) Instead, show your concern in very practical ways; for example, make sure someone is handling all the gifts of foods that will be sent to the home.

Encourage your friend to express his grief openly. Weeping sometimes keeps emotions from building up and being expressed later. But there will come times when the individual may cry without any warning. Prepare your friend for those days; let him know such reactions are normal.

Write your friend a note that will come a week or two after the "visiting rush" has passed. Support will be needed more then.

(Turn the Page)

Make it a point to talk with your friend privately about a month after the funeral. Most of the legal matters will have been addressed and he will probably be more open and receptive to spiritual counsel. Be sensitive to specific questions and needs.

If appropriate, suggest one of the following: *Mourning Song,* Joyce Landorf; *To Live Again,* Catherine Marshall; *Joy Beyond Grief,* Colena Anderson; *A View from the Hearse,* Joy Bagley; *A Grief Observed,* C. S. Lewis.

Times of trouble and bereavement greatly concern most of us and at these times, vast resources of compassion are often manifested. But **common, everyday acts of friendship** can be just as meaningful. Consider these:

1. Whenever you go out for a few groceries, call an elderly neighbor or a widowed friend and ask, "Is there anything I can get for you?" You might even want to ask that individual to go with you.
2. Whenever you prepare a dessert, cut a few pieces, while it's still warm, and take them to a neighbor.
3. Surprise a neighbor with a dinner. Tell the family that dinner is on you. Pack a basket with a fresh cloth, napkins, a casserole, salad, rolls, and fresh fruit. Come back for the dishes later—and insist that they had better not be washed.

Remember this: Caring benefits both you and the receiver. Don't be just a hearer of the Word; be a doer, too!

The Written Word

"Do all the good you can by all the means you can." Christians have taken these words of John Wesley as their call for centuries. Whether washing windows, visiting the sick, or teaching Sunday school, they have expressed their love for others, a trait that is at the heart of the church.

Today with homeless people in the streets of our land, high unemployment, and divided loyalties between work and home, ministry becomes more complicated. It's hard to take a cake to a neighbor who is ill without being concerned about hungry children across town. And

it's hard to minister to the needs of a family when you are barraged by bad news about the country and world. Ministering may no longer be picking the project closest at hand but rather deciding how best to use your talents and time.

One means by which you can minister is **through the written word.** Perhaps you were young when you first realized the impact of the written word; then again, you may not have learned its impact even today. Consider this: Although it is always nice to receive compliments or words of encouragement, they seem so much more powerful when they are written instead of spoken. Often they minister in a special way to someone who needs that extra boost to make it through the day. With the spreading impact of the electronic media, written words may seem almost out of date. Yet those who take the time to minister through the written word will find that people really appreciate the lasting value of a note or letter.

Why not consider one of these forms of ministry?

1. **Drop someone a note.** Tell the person you've been thinking of him or praying for him. Let the person know you think he's special. If you set aside just ten minutes a day, you can encourage more than a dozen people each week.

2. **Buy a stack of greeting cards** that contain a friendly message. Send them out on special occasions or for no apparent reason at all.

3. **Copy a new recipe** and send it to a friend. You might send a timesaving casserole recipe to a busy mother or a low calorie dessert to a friend who's dieting. Include a verse from the Bible to encourage that person.

4. **Send someone an inspirational book or booklet.** Words of inspiration may help someone you know make it through the day with a smile or needed assurance.

5. **Start a full-fledged letter-writing program.** This sounds like a major undertaking, but it really only takes the investment of an hour or two each week. Such a ministry could put you in contact with people who hear from no one else—a tragedy in itself. Encouragement and guidance can be included from the Bible; but for the most part, your letter could be a friendly note and a reminder that someone cares. In our busy impersonal world, that's a ministry that really makes a difference.

Minister to the Minister

Ministers spend most of their time giving. Sure, the church "gives" them a salary for this service; but who ministers to the minister? Often, without others even knowing it, his emotional and spiritual needs go unmet. As a result, he feels tired, unappreciated, uninspired, sometimes throwing up his hands and wondering what's the use.

Delicate as the subject is, I know ministers are by no means perfect, but their role does not call for them to do all the giving. Any kindness expressed will make a busy life easier. Consider the following:

1. **Respect your minister's position and leadership.** (Respect is not shown when you "serve" him as one of your entrees at the dinner table; instead, pray for him.)

2. **Remember he needs you to treat him as a normal person.** Normal people do make mistakes.

3. **Encourage him to take care of himself, making sure he gets rest.** (Of course some people feel he should be plenty rested. These individuals feel ministers work only one day a week. Most ministers would gladly let these skeptics walk with them for one week.)

4. **Volunteer to do some of the "odd jobs" at hand.** Cleaning buildings, arranging meetings, making sure others do that which they have agreed to do, all keep him from the "real job" at hand.

5. **Compliment him.** Substitute real praise for the small complaints you have. Talk about the things he does well.

6. **Remember that he cannot do all the work in the church.** (Even Jesus had help!)

7. **Take your church responsibilities as seriously as he does.** He'll have much less to do if you'll faithfully carry your load.

8. **Offer creative suggestions for improving your church's ministries.** Don't leave all the brainstorming to him. And remember, when sharing your ideas, don't make him feel like a failure.

THE MATTER OF DISCIPLINE

by De Wayne Eakes

When the word "discipline" is used, the common idea that we share is that of some type of punitive action being taken due to the infraction of some set of rules or standard of behavior. It is unfortunate that this important concept is usually understood from its negative application.

As a member of the Board of Ordination for the past seven years we have seen the necessity of the use of discipline due to the infraction of denominational and conference policy, ethical and moral misconduct and doctrinal error. A part of the Board of Ordination's duties includes the proper discipline of the ministers serving within the bounds of the conference. To have to discipline a fellow minister is always a very painful task. Several of our conferences have a rule that if a minister misses two consecutive sessions of the Annual Conference, without giving a sufficient reason for his absence, his credentials are suspended. This seems like a harsh rule. Stop and think about it. All of the conferences meet at the same time every year. Every minister knows when his conference meets. It is his responsibility to inform the conference in advance of his absence or attend in person. My personal feeling is that every effort should be made to attend the conference.

Here is something that bothers me. There is a gross inconsistency in our code of discipline. The ordaining boards enforce the rules for ministers. But did you know that the same rule applies to the churches? Conference rules state, "Any church not representing at the Annual Conference shall be subject to censure by the conference." Year after year churches do not represent at all or choose to "delegate by letter." Thus they lose their representative voting power, which is vital, in our connectional form of government on the conference-local church level. I know why this rule is not enforced; many churches would probably withdraw from the conference if censored. Here is another inequity. Ministers who actively work against denominational enterprises and/or lead their congregations in nonsupport are liable to censure by the ordaining councils because in their license and ordination they pledge to support all phases of our denominational program. But churches can "withhold" support of a particular program or give nothing to programs year after year and nothing is said. Read the church Covenant and the *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists.* Every church covenants before God and with the denomination to support its various enterprises, programs and institutions!

It is deemed "unethical" for a minister to talk with two pulpit committees simultaneously and to pit one church against another. Surely this is questionable ethics. But what about the practice of some church pulpit committees of considering two or three or more ministers at the same time? This, too, is a highly questionable practice.

Discipline and discipleship are words cut from the same cloth. Discipline can be a very positive force. It must be in our personal lives and the life of the denomination. Personal discipline on the part of the clergy will do away with the necessity of punitive discipline by the boards of ordination. Discipline on the local church level will assure a stronger conference by "delegation in person" and by participation and support of the entire denominational program, thus sharing the responsibility for the building of God's Kingdom through these various means.

The matter of discipline is important. It can be a highly productive force in our lives and in our denomination. The disciplined life accomplishes more and so does the disciplined congregation! Discipline is intended to be positive not punitive. The disciplines of study, work, prayer, etc. are not intended to be punitive but productive. Discipline is a vital part of discipleship! I believe that clergy, laity, local churches, conferences and our entire denomination will be the beneficiary of a more disciplined discipleship!

Revival in Progress at Snow Hill Church

The Rev. Fred Rivenbark

Revival services are in progress through October 7, at Snow Hill Church, Route 2, Mount Olive. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Fred Rivenbark of Durham, North Carolina, is the evangelist. There will be special singing each night under the direction of Mrs. Mary Gold Bell, accompanied by Mrs. Faye Reardon, pianist.

The church choirs and singers from other churches will be part of each service.

The pastor, the Rev. John A. Owens, and the church members give to everyone a cordial invitation to share the blessing of God.

Mt. Tabor Church to Have Homecoming Day

Mt. Tabor Church near Creswell, will observe its annual homecoming, October 9, 1983.

Sunday school will be at 10 a.m. Worship services will be at 11 a.m. The message will be brought by the pastor, the Rev. Frank Thigpen of Wilson. Lunch will be served on the church grounds at noon. There will be a singspiration in the afternoon.

The pastor and the church membership invite all former pastors and members to share in the fellowship for the day.

Walnut Creek Church to Have Revival Services

Walnut Creek Church, located about 3 miles west of La Grange, just off Highway 701, will have revival services on October 10-14, with each service beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The speaker will be the Rev. Floyd Cherry from Pine Level. Though he is retired from the active pastorate, he is still very busy continuing to serve the Lord. He is probably the most well-known and vocal preacher within the ranks for his fundamental and conservative beliefs of the Christian faith.

The pastor, the Rev. Larry W. Barbour, and the people of the Walnut Creek Church, invite and would be glad to have everyone come to those services.

Albemarle District Women to Meet

The Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held at First Church, Plymouth, on Thursday, October 13, 1983. The theme will be "Fruits of Faith." Hebrews 11:6 will be the Scripture. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:45—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"
—Devotion, Mrs. Becky Clayton
10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Mary Miller
—Response, Mrs. Ellane Radcliff
—President's Greetings, Miss Becky Jo Sumner
—Recognition of Ministers and Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
10:30—Reading of Minutes
—Roll Call of Auxiliaries
10:45—Mission News, Home and Foreign
—Offering for Missions
—Hymn, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness," Mrs. Becky Clayton
11:00—Children's Home Report
—Retirement Home Report
—Offering for Children's Home
11:20—Special Music, "Have Faith in God," Host Auxiliary
11:30—Message, Miss Sara Willoughby
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Hymn, "Faith Is the Victory"
1:05—Memorial Service, Mrs. Robana Fowler
1:15—Mount Olive College News
1:30—Cragmont News
1:45—News from the Press
2:00—Youth Report
—Committee Reports
—Treasurer's Report
—Announcement of Next Convention
—Miscellaneous Business
—Benediction and Adjournment

Current Events at Cabin Church

Revival services are in progress through October 7, at Cabin Church, Beulaville. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Charles Crisp is the evangelist.

The church will observe homecoming on October 9. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Western District Auxiliary Convention to Be Held

The Western District Auxiliary Convention will be held at Northern Church, near Durham, on October 8, 1983. The scheduled program is as follows:

Theme: "I Have Been Changed"
Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:17

9:15—Registration
9:45—Hymn, "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart"
—Devotion, Sandra Hopkins
—Welcome, Judy Holt, Host Auxiliary
—President's Remarks, Donna Holland, Union Grove, Wayne County
10:15—Hymn, "Standing on the Promises"
—"I Have Been Changed Through Benevolence," Esther Barnes, Little Rock
—"I Have Been Changed Through Missions," Nancy Duncan

(Turn the Page)

—Offering, Missions
—"I Have Been Changed Through Our Youth," Suzanne Coates, Pine Level
—Special Music, Price Family, Host Auxiliary
11:00—Hymn, "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder"
—Offering and Prayer
—Convention Message, Kitty Sasser Barnes, Little Rock
12:00—Lunch
1:00—Hymn, "He Included Me"
—Devotion, Mrs. Josephine Johnson, Mount Zion, Wilson County
—Business Session
—Closing Hymn, "Jesus Calls Us"
—Benediction

To get to Northern Church, take Highway 70 from Raleigh to Durham; bypass around Durham to Highway 501 North. Follow 501-N past Northern High School, a distance of approximately two miles. Turn right on Orange Factory Road; the church is located about ¼ of a mile down this road on the left.

Robert's Grove Church Observes Grandparent's Day

On Sunday morning, September 11, 1983, Robert's Grove Church, Route 1, Dunn, North Carolina, observed Grandparent's Day.

During the Sunday school hour, the superintendent, Mr. Bobby Johnson, called all the grandparents present to the front of the sanctuary. After some words of praise to them, he gave each family a small bag of goodies, which surely showed his love and respect for those who had been blessed to live long enough to be grandparents.

He then asked each one to go out on the front steps of the church, where he and his good wife proceeded to make several pictures of the group.

Robert's Grove people are very proud and fortunate to have a young couple as dedicated to their Lord and their church as Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Johnson.

Revival in Progress At Elm Grove Church

Revival services are in progress through October 7, at Elm Grove Church near Ayden. The Rev. Harold Jones is the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special music each evening. Homecoming will be October 9. The pastor, the Rev. Steve Hargrove, and the church members invite everyone to attend these services.

Revival Services to Be Held at Daly's Chapel Church

Revival services will be held at Daly's Chapel Church, Route 1, Seven Springs, October 10-14. The Rev. Jackie Godwin, pastor of Beaverdam Church, Whiteville, will be the guest evangelist. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. The pastor, the Rev. David W. Hansley, and the congregation extend a cordial invitation to the public to attend.

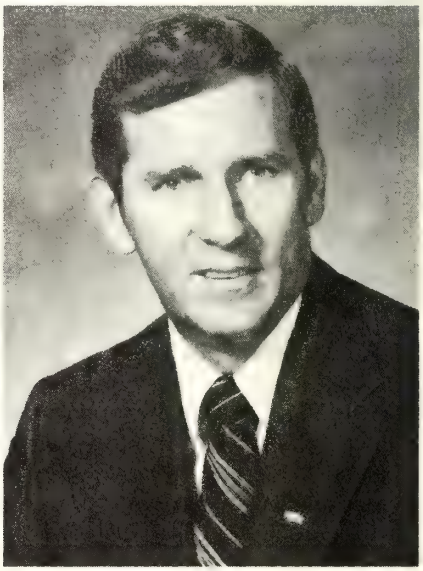
Cape Fear Women to Meet

Cape Fear Women will meet for the Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention to be held at Haymount Free Will Baptist Church, Fayetteville, North Carolina, on October 12, 1983. The theme will be "Feasting on God's Word." The Scripture will be taken from Psalm 22:26. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION
9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "Wonderful Words of Life"
—Scripture and Prayer, Mrs. Alton Howard
—Welcome, Mrs. Taylor Hill
—Response, Mrs. Nellie Boling
10:15—Greetings from President, Mrs. Grace Barbour
—Business:
10:35—Denominational Reports, conducted by Mrs. Edna Fowler
11:15—Hymn, "Break Thou the Bread of Life"
—Worship Offering
—Special Music, Host Church
—Convention Message, the Rev. Jerry Allen
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION
1:00—Hymn, "Dwelling in Beulah Land"
—Presentation of Life Membership Award
1:30—Business Session
2:00—Hymn
—Benediction

Service Planned at Shiloh Church



The Rev. Bobby Brown

Homecoming will be observed October 16, at Shiloh Church, Pinetown. The Rev. Bobby Brown, pastor, will be bringing the morning message. All friends and members are invited to attend. Dinner will be served on the grounds.

Revival services will be held October 17-21. The Rev. Bobby Brown will be the evangelist. The time of the services will be 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each night. The public is invited to attend.

Palmer Memorial Church To Have Singspiration

On October 9, at 7 p.m., at Palmer Memorial Church near Garner, the "Damascus Way" will give a singspiration to kick

off the revival the following week, October 10-14. The time for the prayer room is 7:15 p.m. and services will be at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Jeff Scarborough will be the visiting evangelist with the Rev. Dewey C. Boling, pastor, assisting.

Upcoming Events at Edgewood Church

Upcoming events will include homecoming on October 16, at Edgewood Church. The Rev. Ray Almond will be the guest speaker. There will be featured singers for the afternoon song service, "The King's Messengers." Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival will be held October 19-21. The Rev. Ray Williamson will be the evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special music each night. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. The pastor is the Rev. Robert Strickland.

Upcoming Events at St. Mary's Church

Revival services will be held at St. Mary's Church, New Bern, October 10-14. The Rev. Earl Glenn will be the guest evangelist. A nursery will be provided and there will be special music. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m.

Homecoming will be observed on October 16. Dinner will be served on the church grounds. The pastor, the Rev. Marvin Waters, and the congregation, extend an invitation to everyone to attend.

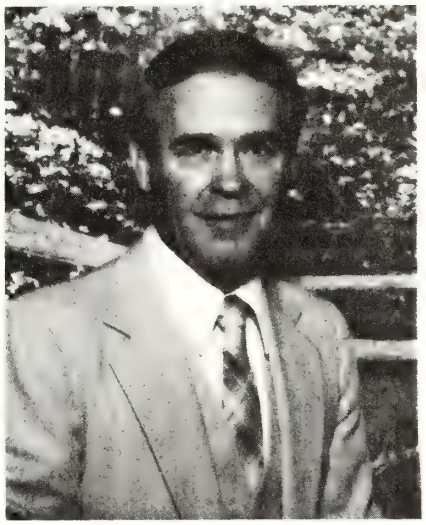
Revival and Homecoming at British Chapel Church

Revival services will be held October 17-21, at British Chapel Church, Route 6, Kinston. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Donald Fader will be the evangelist. There will be special singing each night.

Homecoming services will be observed on Sunday, October 23. The day's activities will begin with Sunday school at 9:45 a.m., followed by the 11 a.m. worship service. Lunch will be served at noon in the fellowship hall.

The pastor, the Rev. Robert Fader, and the church congregation invite everyone to attend these services.

Robert F. Burke Ordained



The Rev. Robert F. Burke

Robert F. Burke, pastor of Faith Church of Morehead City was given his ordination papers at a service in Pinetown, North Carolina, at the Free Union Church.

The service was conducted by the Rev. Charles Overton, the Rev. Robert May and the Rev. Steve Hargrove.

Mr. Burke comes to Faith with 20 years of service to the Lord. Mr. Burke has preached in North Carolina, Virginia, Alabama, South Carolina, and has ministered on radio and TV.

He is married to Georgia Corder Burke of Colburn, Virginia, and they have two daughters and one grandson. Mr. Burke would like to thank all those involved at the service at Free Union Church who gave him a wonderful Bible and fellowship after the services, including Sidney Church of Belhaven, North Carolina, and also his present church, and his friends who attended the service.

Homecoming Day to Be Held At Owens Chapel Church

Homecoming day at Owens Chapel Church, Route 3, Elm City, will be observed on Sunday, October 9. The services for the day will include Sunday school at 10 a.m. and worship services at 11 a.m. with the pastor, the Rev. Melvin Moore, bringing the message. Following the services, lunch will be served in the fellowship hall. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend.

Revival Announced at White Oak Church

Revival services will be held at White Oak Church, 8 miles west of Maysville, on state road 1116, October 10-14. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Joey Crumpler of Friendship Church of Trenton. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Revival Services at Sts. Delight Church

Revival services will be held at Sts. Delight Church near Ayden, October 17-21. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Bob Futrell from Jackson Heights Church, Kinston. There will be special singing each night. Everyone is invited to attend. The Rev. James Warren is the pastor of the church.

Could we with ink the ocean fill,
And were the heavens of parchment made,
Were every stalk on earth a quill,
And every man a scribe by trade,
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry,
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,
Though stretch'd from sky to sky.

—Author unknown

OUR EVANGELISTIC EFFORTS IN JUNE, '83

by Emmanual M. Lall

Dr. E. M. Lall

While submitting this report regarding the evangelistic efforts made in the month of June 1983 by the Free Will Baptists in India as a part of our yearly activity, I owe my gratitude to God for extending the great opportunity to us again this year. Despite bad weather, He enabled us to achieve our target and brought us back happy and healthy.

I am greatly indebted to the Free Will Baptists of North Carolina who have been sharing and carrying the burden of the ministry in our land. Your prayers and support have helped greatly in the furtherance of our ministry. We have been conscious of your prayers and are grateful for your sacrificial giving out of your bread for the glory of God.

Evangelism, the Life-Breath of the Church

Evangelism is the life-breath of the Church. A witnessing church is a living church. The Lord Jesus Christ before sending out His disciples to preach addressed them with these words, "Lift up your eyes, and look upon the fields; for they are white already unto harvest" (John 4:35). ". . . pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth labourers into His harvest" (Luke 10:2).

The Land We Serve

The land we serve is our own mother land. We love her and are dedicated to serving her teeming millions consisting of the so called high and low, the rich and the poor, the educated and the uneducated. Her people number over 700 million. India's people are often classified according to the various religious communities, among them being—Hindus 85%; Muslims, 10%; Christians 2½%; others 2½%. Among the Christians only four tenths of one percent belong to evangelical denominations. It is important to note that half of India's population consists of those who are less than 18 years of age.

Urbanization in India does not seem to present the acute problem that it does in some of the western countries. Rural backwardness due to so many reasons continues to be our dominant problem. Our country is not only divided on the basis of rural and urban population and different religious communities, each presenting its own problems, but it is also split on the basis of linguistic, caste and class distinctions. Among the vast majority of our country's teeming millions poverty of the worst kind is part of our everyday life.

Rural Evangelism

The evangelization in the rural parts of India, especially Northern India, is the need of the hour. The majority of the population, 82%, live in rural areas. Various church missions have been involved in rural ministry but abandoned the work because of harassment and fear of life and property since Christian workers became martyrs in the rural areas only. It does not seem so easy to work among the illiterates in such areas who are not only very orthodox in their faith but superstitious and rigid in their paganism. It really does demand a great deal of crossbearing, for such a task which is indeed hard and arduous. Undoubtedly we stand on the threshold of a challenge in the rural phases of our mission.

As in the past years, our church organization undertook mass evangelism from June 6 to 29, 1983. We had four teams composed of seven members each. Well-equipped with literature, handbills, brochures, New Testaments and Bibles, we marched on foot in four different directions from our evangelistic centre and covered an area of about 172 miles. Over 20 thousand people heard the message of the gospel in 42 villages at 49 places in organized meetings. The follow-up literature was given on the last day at every place to those who indicated their interest. There were 182 people who expressed their decision to accept the Lord Jesus Christ. A renowned sculptor (idol builder) was brought to Christ there and then. He said "He has accepted the Lord Jesus Christ for his eternal salvation and that his joining Christianity might lack thousands of the idols in the country and may make people realize that there is only one God who is to be worshiped." This man is witnessing in our church congregations. Our plan is to revisit these places sometime after our church seminar is over to make certain of their decisions and for the entire follow-up work with more essential materials.

Challenge That We Face

The challenge before us is great. As in 2 Timothy, 4:5 "But watch thou in all things, endure

(Continued on Page 18)

EVERETT CHAPEL PEOPLE VISIT

It was an afternoon of great fellowship when members of Everett Chapel Church visited the campus of the Children's Home, September 17.

They furnished a delicious meal and afterwards there was fun and games for everyone. The children and the staff enjoyed this outing and wish to express their appreciation to the members of Everett Chapel for making their afternoon such an enjoyable one.

The Happiness Club of Raleigh visited the Children's Home on Sunday, September 18. They provided ice cream for the children, and it was enjoyed by all.

Also during their visit they presented to the Home a donation of curtains and bedspreads to be used in the cottages. The children and staff wish to express a sincere "thank you" to the Happiness Club for their generous donation to the Home.

DIRECTOR OF CHILD CARE NEEDED

The Children's Home is in need of a Director of Child Care. This position is open now. The position requires a person who is a graduate of an accredited four-year college or university, with major study in the field of social services (psychology, sociology, social work, etc.) or related fields. Anyone interested in applying for this position may contact the Children's Home for an application [call (919) 235-2161, or write to P.O. Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557].

Dear Free Will Baptist Student:

Decisions regarding your education are among the most important you will ever make.

At Mount Olive, we are committed to our students. They are the reasons we are here, and we believe that whatever is best for our students is best for our College.

We believe in academic excellence and we seek to challenge our students to the highest level of their potential. College, however, is more than an academic experience. It involves the whole process of growing and developing as a human being and as a child of God, and for that reason we seek to provide a wholesome atmosphere for both learning and living.

At Mount Olive, we recognize that the cost of an education is a major consideration for many students and their parents. Attending the college that is best for you, however, is your best investment. In years to come you may forget the cost of college, but for the rest of your life you will know the difference in the kind of education you received.

If you choose Mount Olive and are accepted for admission, as a member of a supporting Free Will Baptist church you will be given a $5,000 tuition grant to be awarded $1,250 each year. In addition to this annual $1,250, bona fide state residents are eligible for the North Carolina Legislative Tuition Grant in the amount of $750 annually.

The following information will illustrate the cost of attendance and the amounts available through the Free Will Baptist and Legislative Tuition Grants:

Projected Costs For 1984-85	**Resident**	**Commuting**
Tuition	$2,800	$2,800
Room and Board	2,150	0
Total	$4,950	$2,800
Grants		
Free Will Baptist Tuition Grant	$1,250	$1,250
NC Legislative Tuition Grant	750	750
	$2,000	$2,000
NET COST	$2,950	$ 800

In addition to the above grants, Mount Olive College offers academic honors scholarships; athletic grants in men's and women's basketball, baseball, softball, goft and tennis; student employment through work-study and education loans.

We want to help you reach your impossible dream. Why not visit, write or call us today? You will learn that we care.

Sincerely yours,
W. Burkette Raper
President

THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, NC 28365
Telephone: 919/658-2502

FALL VISITATION DAYS ARE PLANNED

This fall Mount Olive College will hold a series of "Campus Visitation Days" for high school students, their parents, and others who are interested in attending college. Campus tours will begin from the Henderson Building at 10:00 a.m.

The dates to remember are: Monday, October 10; Friday, October 14; Saturday, November 5; and Friday, November 11.

Three of the Visitation Days are scheduled on regular classroom days so that prospective students will see Mount Olive College "in action."

Counsellors will answer questions about financial aid, academic planning, and student activities.

Lunch and entertainment will round out the day.

"Campus Visitation Days" are an exciting way to learn about Mount Olive College. Everyone who is interested, please come.

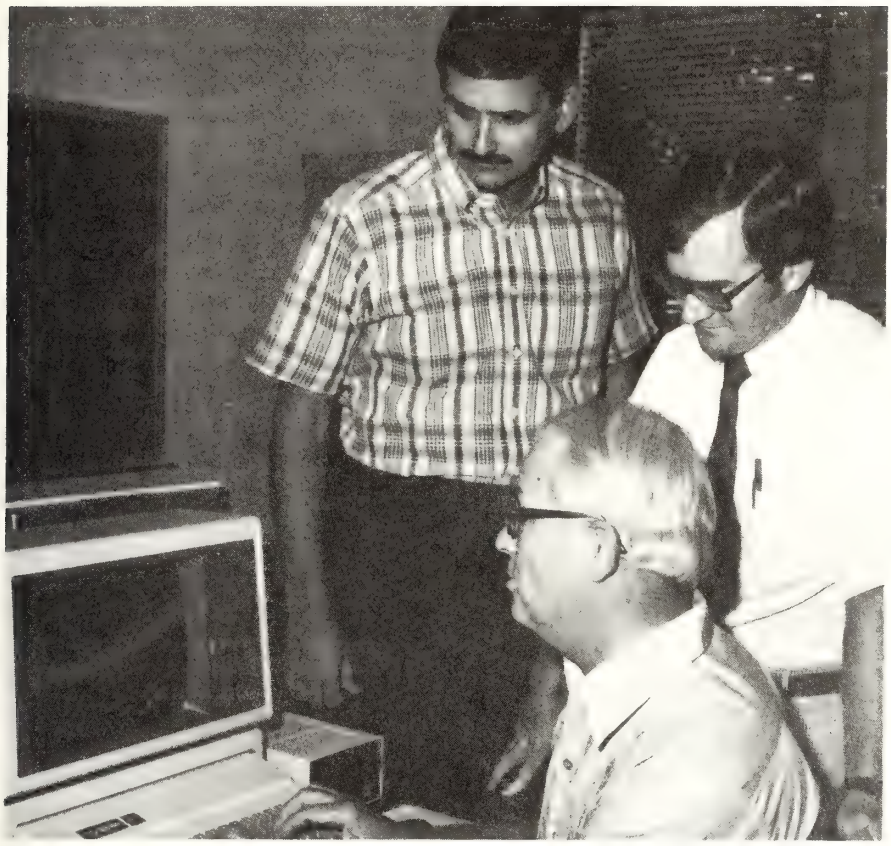
CHURCH VISITS BY COLLEGE PERSONNEL

Sunday, October 9

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president, will be the speaker for College Day Services at Spring Branch Church, Greene County. At 9:45 a.m. he will teach a combined session of youth and adult Sunday school classes and he will also be the speaker for the worship service at 11 a.m. The Rev. Dale Albertson is pastor.

Professor Calvin Mercer of the Religion Department will be the speaker for Homecoming Services at 11 a.m. at Bethel Church, Johnston County. His sermon title is "The Longest Home Run." The Rev. Raeford Lee is pastor.

NEW COMPUTER LABORATORY INSTALLED AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



Dr. Michael Pelt receives hands-on experience on one of the ten new APPLE IIe computers. Professors Al Warrick and Ken Dilda look on.

Mount Olive College has joined the computer age. Ten new APPLE IIe computers have been installed in the Henderson Building in the computer laboratory.

"The addition of computers means that our students are using the most modern technology available," reports Vice President and Dean Opey Jeanes. "This equipment will strengthen all academic areas at the college."

The computers are part of the gearing up of the four-year program, in which all students who graduate with a baccalaureate degree must possess a minimum competency in computers.

To further this goal, faculty members completed a two-day computer workshop during the Fall Faculty Conference.

Two representatives from Computer Display of Greenville instructed faculty members on the use of the APPLE IIe computers.

The computer program will be expanded so that it can be used in most instructional areas offered by the college. Students will someday be able to work independently in the library and the dormitories as well as the classrooms.

With the new computers installed, and the facilities of College Hall completed, there is a definite potential for summer programs to be held on campus. Plans are being made to provide computer camps for students and computer workshops for teachers.

As student Brigitte Almendarez says, "I am happy to be learning about computers. Computer technology is taking over a lot of businesses. If you don't know how to use a computer, you don't have a job."

Friends and supporters of Mount Olive College can be assured that the essential need for computer knowledge, in our constantly changing world of communications, is being met every day on your campus.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DINNERS

The annual church dinners for Mount Olive College are under way, and all Free Will Baptists, alumni and friends of the College are invited to attend the dinner in their area.

The dinners are held to provide gift support for the educational program and development of the College. Contributions this year will be especially helpful in assisting Mount Olive to become a four-year college.

Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, director of the dinners, has announced that the combined goal for the seventeen dinners this fall is $167,350. Contributions may be made in advance through the local church or at the dinner. No tickets are sold.

The schedule for the following week includes:

Nash County, Wednesday, October 5, 7 p.m., Middlesex Elementary School, Middlesex, Lester Duncan, Chairman. Goal $4,150. Music by the New Creations.

Onslow, New Hanover, Brunswick Counties, Thursday, October 6, 7 p.m., Folkstone Church, O. B. Taylor, Chairman. Goal $2,175. The New Creations will perform.

Beaufort County, Saturday, October 8, 7 p.m., Chocowinity High School, Chocowinity, Billy Gurkin, Chairman. Goal $7,315. The New Creations will perform.

Greene County, Monday, October 10, 7 p.m., West Greene School, Snow Hill, George Harrison, Chairman. Goal $9,850. The Mount Olive Singers will perform.

COMING EVENTS

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October 5—Albemarle Conference, Free Union Church, Pinetown

October 13—Western Conference, Trinity Church near Clayton

October 15—Pee Dee Association Annual Meeting, Pireway Church, 16 miles east of Tabor City, 9 a.m.

CONTRIBUTIONS
August 1983

RECEIPTS

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Reedy Branch	$ 17.00
Second Union Central Conference	14.20
Community Ladies Auxiliary	10.00
Friendship	25.00
Fidelis Memorial	20.00
Williamston, First	31.09
Hull Road	200.00
Fourth Union District	11.58
Otter's Creek	26.93
Rose Hill	50.00
King's Cross Roads	950.57
Black Jack	162.00
Total	$ 1,518.37

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Pleasant Grove	$ 200.00
Smithfield, First	50.00
Palmer Memorial	88.29
Total	$ 338.29

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Union Chapel	$ 24.86
Shiloh	29.05
Albemarle Union Meeting	20.70
Total	$ 74.61

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Pilgrims Rest	$ 15.00
Beaufort	20.00
Faith Ladies Auxiliary	2.00
Wardens Grove	73.45
Bethlehem	100.00
Bethlehem AFC	100.00
Jackson Heights	143.65
St. Mary's	250.00
Bridgeton	32.00
Total	$ 736.10

WESTERN CONFERENCE

People's Chapel Sunday School	$ 5.00
Milbournie	75.00
Friendship	100.00
Pine Level	200.00
Stancil Chapel Sunday School	306.00
Stoney Creek	1,362.26
First Union Western Conference	165.00
Sherron Acres	175.00
Piney Grove	62.50
Total	$ 2,450.76

OTHER GIFTS

St. Cloud, Florida	$ 10.00
Lee Tolar	50.00
Lena L. Mills	5.00
Jo Ann Parrish	25.00
Celia H. Garris Ladies Auxiliary	25.00
Total	$ 115.00

RECEIPTS

General Fund	$ 5,058.13
Building Fund	175.00
Cragmont Club	1,801.00
Store	2,699.17
Conference and Retreat	7,230.50
Miscellaneous	2,884.00
Total	$19,847.80

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries	$ 4,368.34
Utilities	878.30
Food	6,042.93
Sundries	1,037.59
Office Supplies	220.59
Store	6,803.87
Taxes	137.00
Insurance	272.45
Maintenance and Repairs	700.71
Gas	136.00
Mileage Promotional	163.90
Miscellaneous	1,512.11
Total	$22,273.79

MISCELLANEOUS DISBURSEMENTS

Purchase of fans	$ 106.85
Payment on vacuum cleaner	194.76
Returned checks	33.00
Repay petty cash	453.17
Purchase ceiling fans	210.36
Purchase calculator	109.70
Trophies for tournament	404.27
Total	$ 1,512.11

IN MEMORY OF VIOLA BARROW TURNAGE

God, in His infinite wisdom and mercy, called Viola Barrow Turnage to be with Him on July 9, 1983. Her weak, frail body could no longer function, and her spirit was lifted to a place of peace and rest to be with her Saviour. A few days before, she said to family members, "I need a new body."

She left this life of uncertainty, toil and struggle to receive the joy of her Lord where there is no pain, sorrow nor death. Surely her reward is great for she carefully stored treasures in Heaven as she ministered to the needs of others showing her love for Christ and compassion for the unfortunate.

Christ had first place in her heart and life. This gave her an awareness of the needs of her neighbors and friends. She often visited the unsaved, the sick and the shut-ins in her community and shared her love for the Lord Jesus. When she was unable to go in person, she wrote newsy letters filled with Scripture references and verses. She served her Master as she encouraged and inspired many.

Let us consider the words of Solomon which describe her well. "Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies."

She graciously filled her role as wife and mother, giving unselfishly of herself for the best interests of her family. Her husband always loved, trusted and depended on her. She taught her children to love and reverence God and to respect their elders.

Mother was an active member of Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church. As her health permitted, she was faithful in attendance not only at Sunday worship services but also Sunday school and mid-week prayer service. She will be remembered by her church community for her outstanding devotion and daily prayer for her pastor, its leaders and the membership.

She taught a Sunday school class, was a charter member and first secretary of the local Woman's Auxiliary, which was organized in April, 1915. She remained an active member and a guiding influence for more than forty years.

She was well known for her biblical knowledge and spiritual wisdom. The Word of God was the source of her strength as she read it daily. Although her formal education did not include classes in Bible, she studied it diligently.

Mother was a graduate of the Bible Memory Association, memorizing selected portions of Scripture by topic for six or more years during her sixties. She attended three Association summer camps at Rocky Bottom, South Carolina, which were rewarding experiences

(Continued on Page 18)

For October 9

THE MOTIVE: GOD'S LOVE

Lesson Text: Hosea 11:1-4, 8; 14:4-7; 1 John 4:8, 9
Memory Verse: 1 John 4:8

I. INTRODUCTION

"Throw it away if it doesn't work." That seems to be the motto of this hasty age. Egg-beaters and automobiles, along with a thousand other things, are discarded when they could be repaired. But who wants to bother with a broken thing?

All humanity is broken, worthy of being discarded. "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

Then why does God bother with us? He is capable of discarding things that don't work. Once in the past He threw away most of the human race, and washed the earth clean with a huge flood. Once in the future He will throw away the people who are beyond repair. The garbage dump of Jerusalem was a ravine outside the city wall. Its name was *Gehenna,* and that was the name that Jesus gave to the place of His discards. The name is translated *hell* in the *King James Version* (Matthew 5:29, 30; 10:28).

What is God waiting for? There is room in Hell for all of broken and worthless humanity. If all of us have sinned, why hasn't He thrown us all away? The answer is simple. God loves us. He is not willing for any to perish. He wants every sinner to repent (2 Peter 3:9). He is eager to redeem and rebuild every broken man or woman who is willing to be made over. The garbage dump is only for those who prefer it.

"Why should He love me so?" Our song raises the question and gives no answer, but parents can understand. Love is wounded when a son or a daughter misbehaves, but it does not die.

If I were hanged on the highest hill,
Mother o' mine, O Mother o' mine,
I know whose love would follow me still,
Mother, o' mine, O Mother o' mine.

Like a mother's love is the love of God. It follows His disobedient children through the years. Persistently it calls them to repentance and life. It pleads, but it does not compel. Those who reject and scorn God's love can still be hanged on the highest hill and burned in the deepest Hell.

Our Scripture for this lesson includes the verse that is often called the golden text of the Bible: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). That verse is not included in the printed text, perhaps because nearly every Christian knows it by heart, but the thought of it is central in our study this week. Next week we shall be thinking specifically of God's Son, our Saviour, but this week's text is chosen to remind us that God's love was not born in Bethlehem with the birth of Jesus. God is love (1 John 4:8), and He always has been love. Always He has been eager to redeem and restore His people rather than discard them.

Hosea was a messenger of God's love in the eighth century before Christ. While exact dating is impossible, his ministry may be placed roughly in the third quarter of that century: that is, about 750-725 B.C.

The once-great nation of Israel had been split two hundred years earlier. Hosea spoke sometimes of the southern part, Judah, but more often his message was addressed to the northern part. This part kept the name of Israel, but Hosea often called it by the name of its largest tribe, Ephraim. Occasionally he used the name of its capital city, Samaria.

Hosea spoke plainly about the sins of Israel and warned that they would bring destruction to the nation. As a matter of fact, destruction was right at hand. Hosea may have continued his preaching until the nation met its end in 722 or 721 B.C. But Hosea also proclaimed God's love and called the people to stop that sinning and save themselves from destruction. —*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A. "When I was a very young minister I thought that the real problem that I had was getting people to be convicted of sin, to convince them that they were sinners, to prove to them that they were not perfect. I am a little bit older now, and I have begun to realize it is a more difficult thing to convince people that God really loves them the way they are. He can accept them as being worthy without approving of their sins. They can come into His presence without any pretense, without any smokescreen, without any veneer, and find love, acceptance, forgiveness, cleansing, and hope. This is a love stronger than logic, stronger than legislation, stronger than anything. It is a love that focuses on you."—Kenneth Chafin

B. "God! Thou art love! I build my faith on that."—Robert Browning, in "Paracelsus"

C. Once a little girl was so terrified by a teaching that God is wrathful and vengeful that she would actually pray to Jesus at night for His protection against God!

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

Scripture Reading—Acts 16:25-40; 17

IN HIS STEPS

"The road is too rough," I said,
"Dear Lord, there are stones that hurt me so."
And He said, "Dear child, I understand,
I walked it long ago."
"But there's a cool green path," I said,
"Let me walk there for a time."
"No, child," He gently answered me,
"The green road does not climb."
"My burden," I said, "is far too great,
How can I bear it so?"
"My child," He said, "I remember the weight,
I carried My cross, you know."
But I said, "I wish there were friends with me,
Who would make my way their own."
"Ah, yes," He said, "Gethsemane
Was hard to bear alone."
And so I climb the stony path,
Content at last to know
That where my Master had not gone,
I would not need to go.
And strangely then I found new friends,
The burden grew less sore,
And I remembered, long ago
He went that way before.

Billows of sorrow and trouble polish and refine us, and give to us the opportunity to prove the genuineness of the Saviour's comforting, healing words.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10

Scripture Reading—Acts 18, 19:1-22

PRUNING

One of God's children was passing through the dark waters of sorrow and suffering. "God has forgotten to be gracious to me. I don't understand His judgments," he said. The pastor came to see him. He found him in the back yard, pruning a grapevine of its superfluous twigs and branches. The man said, "Pastor, because of the heavy rains of late, this vine has become overgrown with worthless twigs and branches. It is necessary to remove them so the vine can bring better fruit to maturity." "Does this vine resist and oppose you?" asked the pastor. "Of course not," he said. "Then why should you complain about the chastening hand of God when He does for you what you have done to this vine?" asked the pastor.

Life is not a cloudless journey,
Storms and darkness oft oppress,
But the Father's changeless mercy
Comes to cheer the heart's distress;
Heavy clouds may darkly hover,
Hiding all faith's view above,
But across the thickest darkness
Shines the rainbow of His love.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

Scripture Reading—Acts 19:23—20:16

THOU HAST ENLARGED ME

The cocoon of the emperor moth is flasklike in shape. To develop into a perfect insect, it must force its way through the neck of the cocoon by hours of intense struggle. Entomologists explain that this pressure to which the moth is subjected is nature's way of forcing a life-giving substance into its wings. Wanting to lessen the seemingly needless trials and struggles of the moth, an observer said, "I'll lessen the pain and struggle of this helpless creature!" With small scissors he snipped the restraining threads to make the moth's emergence painless and effortless. The creature never developed wings. For a brief time before its death it simply crawled instead of flying through the air on rainbow-colored wings!

Sorrow, suffering, trials, and tribulations are wisely designed to grow us into Christlikeness. The refining and developing processes are oftentimes slow, but through grace, we will emerge triumphant: "Thou hast enlarged me, when I was in distress" (Psalm 4:1).

When thou hast tried me, I shall come forth as gold (Job 23:10).

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

Scripture Reading—Acts 20:17—21:26

FROM GLORY TO GLORY

Years ago, the world's most valuable diamond was found in an African mine. It was to be given to the king of England to blaze in his crown. When it was found, the diamond was shapeless. A lapidary notched it, and struck it with a hard blow from his instrument. For months he had studied that blow. The lines of cleavage of the diamond had been planned with minutest care. The blow brought the gem to its most perfect shapeliness, radiance and beauty.

Sometimes the Lord, in unerring wisdom, allows the blows of sorrow and suffering to fall on us that we might shine with brighter luster when He comes to "make up [His] jewels."

It is in the crucible of sorrow and suffering that God transforms us "from glory to glory," and grows us into Christlikeness.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

Scripture Reading—Acts 21:27—22

HE SHALL SIT AS A REFINER

In medieval times, the goldsmiths had a unique method to determine when the refining fire had purged away all extraneous matter from the precious metal.

They would stand patiently and peer intently into the seething, molten mass, meantime making the fire hotter and hotter. At last, a smile of satisfaction would lighten up the perspiring face of the goldsmith. He could see his face reflected in the molten mass of gold. Seeing his face mirrored there, he knew that the refining fire had wrought its purifying purpose.

Of the Heavenly Father, the Bible says: "And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver" (Malachi 3:3).

Peter admonished: "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you" (1 Peter 4:12).

When God sees the image of His dear Son reflected in our lives, He knows that His purifying fires have wrought their intended purpose.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

Scripture Reading—Acts 23, 24

TRACE THE RAINBOW THROUGH THE RAIN

When George Matheson was entering upon a promising career, a doctor said to him, "You had better see your friends soon, for erelong darkness will settle upon you and you will see them no more forever!" That was the doctor's way of saying that soon Matheson would become totally blind. Matheson was engaged to a beautiful young lady. He told her of the calamity which would soon befall him and gave her permission to break the engagement. She did. The great sorrow deepened his devotion to God. During that soul-refining trial, Matheson gave to Christ's church a hymn which will inspire others whom God, in unerring wisdom, has chosen to go through the "furnace of affliction" (Isaiah 48:10):

O love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in Thee,
I give Thee back the life I owe,
That in Thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be!

O joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to Thee,
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise not in vain,
That morn shall tearless be!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

Scripture Reading—Acts 25, 26

CALLED ASIDE

Called aside—
From the glad working of thy busy life,
From the world's ceaseless stir of care and strife,
Into the shade and stillness of thy Heavenly Guide
For a brief space thou hast been called aside.

Called aside—
Perhaps into a desert garden dim;
And yet not alone, when thou hast been with Him,
And heard His voice in sweetest accent say:
"Child, wilt thou not with me this still hour stay?"

Called aside—
In hidden paths with Christ thy Lord to tread,
Deeper to drink at the sweet Fountainhead,
Closer in fellowship with Him to roam,
Nearer, perchance, to feel thy Heavenly home.

Called aside—
Oh, knowledge deeper grows with Him alone;
In secret oft His deeper love is shown,
And learnt in many an hour of deep distress
Some rare, sweet lesson of His tenderness.

Called aside—
We thank Thee for the stillness and the shade;
We thank Thee for the hidden paths Thy love hath made,
And, so that we have wept and watched with Thee,
We thank Thee for our dark Gethsemane.

Called aside—
Oh, restful thought, He doth all things well;
Oh, blessed sense with Christ alone to dwell;
So in the shadow of Thy cross to hide,
We thank Thee, Lord, to have been called aside.

Portions selected from Knight's Treasury of Illustrations, Walter B. Knight.

OCTOBER IS SUPERANNUATION MONTH.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 10)

afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry," we are to do the work of evangelists, demonstrating as well as proclaiming that Jesus Christ is Saviour and Lord.

IN MEMORY OF

(Continued from Page 14)

for her as she saw many dedicate their lives to Christ.

In the days of the one-room-teacher school, Mother taught three terms, helping to shape the lives of Greene County children. She had attended East Carolina College in its early days preparing herself for this profession.

Mother lived her entire life about four miles south of Snow Hill in the Arba community. She was born September 23, 1893, the first child of John Owen and Ida Harrison Barrow. She married Reetho Gold Turnage on October 19, 1913, and they are survived by five daughters, two sons, seventeen grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren.

She left an outstanding heritage for her descendents.

Helen T. Beaman

NOTICE

The Ordaining Council of the Central Conference will meet Monday, October 10, at 10 a.m., at First Church, Greenville.

Anyone having business with this council please contact the Rev. Harry Grubbs for an appointment at 756-8585 or 756-6600.

Harry Grubbs

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Bass Mitchell has a change of address. It is Route 5, Box 91-A, Kinston, North Carolina 28501. His telephone number is 527-8751.

TWENTY DON'TS FOR YOUNG PASTORS

For thirty-five years, Daniel F. Roth was a German-speaking Seventh-day Adventist minister. When he died, his son, Don A. Roth, was sorting the boxes of items left behind and came across some textbooks his father had used when he attended the old Clinton Theological Seminary. (This institution was operated in Clinton, Missouri, from 1910 to 1925 as a junior college with affiliated grade school and academy. Drawing students from the many German-speaking Adventists in the Midwest, its purpose was to train ministers for work among German immigrants.) The flyleaf of one book carried the following counsel, which D. F. Roth had written by hand in English and titled, "Twenty Don'ts for Young Preachers." We feel it is excellent advice, not only for young ministers, but for those of every age, and just as pertinent today as when it was written decades ago.

1. Don't live beyond your income.
2. Don't be a stingy person.
3. Don't preach your doubts.
4. Don't preach so much against things as for principles.
5. Don't be tempted on any occasion not to preach your best.
6. Don't be looking for a larger field or another call.
7. Don't be a pessimist.
8. Don't deal in off-color stories.
9. Don't lose your temper in public.
10. Don't overlook the Bible when looking for [preaching] texts.
11. Don't be jealous of your fellow ministers.
12. Don't scold or deal in personalities.
13. Don't be artificial or sensational.
14. Don't belittle little things.
15. Don't be lazy.
16. Don't neglect the sick and sorrowing.
17. Don't betray a confidence.
18. Don't fail to keep your appointments.
19. Don't allow anyone to dictate your message.
20. Don't fail to pray.

Daniel F. Roth

CAMP VANDEMERE FAITH FUND UP-DATE

The fall seems to be a time when many organizations put on their fund drives. All these drives are important and do many good things for our people. But, we, the Board of Directors of Camp Vandemere, ask that you please don't forget the Camp. This is also a big time for our drive for both the Faith Fund and the General Fund. So, please, individuals, remember to make your commitment to the Faith Fund today by filling in the form below and forwarding it to the address shown; and churches, please forward your support to the General Fund, c/o Rev. Ralph Sumner, Box 298, Oriental, NC 28571.

If we are to liquidate the debt at Camp Vandemere by next fall (fall 1984) we must have the support of all of you.

If the Camp is to be maintained and the bills paid, we must have the support of all of our churches.

Send Faith Fund Commitments to:

Camp Vandemere Faith Fund
Wachovia Bank & Trust Company
Marie Whitford
P.O. Box 406
Vanceboro, North Carolina 28586

Balance needed to liquidate as of September 23, 1984: $87,693.

Help us to help others. Become a Camp Partner today.

L. GRADY TUCKER, Director

CAMP VANDEMERE - FAITH FUND

To support its commitment to Christian recreation I (we) will give:

A one time donation of $_____

A monthly donation of $_____ per month for twelve (12) months.

Please make checks payable to Camp Vandemere Faith Fund

_____

DONOR_____

ADDRESS_____ HOME PHONE_____

CITY _____ STATE_____ ZIP_____

Business (Firm & Address)_____

Free Will Baptist Church_____ Conference_____

Signature_____

—GIFTS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AS ALLOWED BY LAW—

Why Wait?

Keeping up with what is happening among Original Free Will Baptists is not always an easy task, but it is one we enjoy. With each and every printing of *The Free Will Baptist,* we try to provide information about meetings; details of work being accomplished by denominational enterprises, institutions, and auxiliaries; as well as inspirational materials which will challenge you to greater service. Every Free Will Baptist family should be receiving *The Free Will Baptist.* Why don't you subscribe today? Fill out the form below and mail it to the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513-0158.

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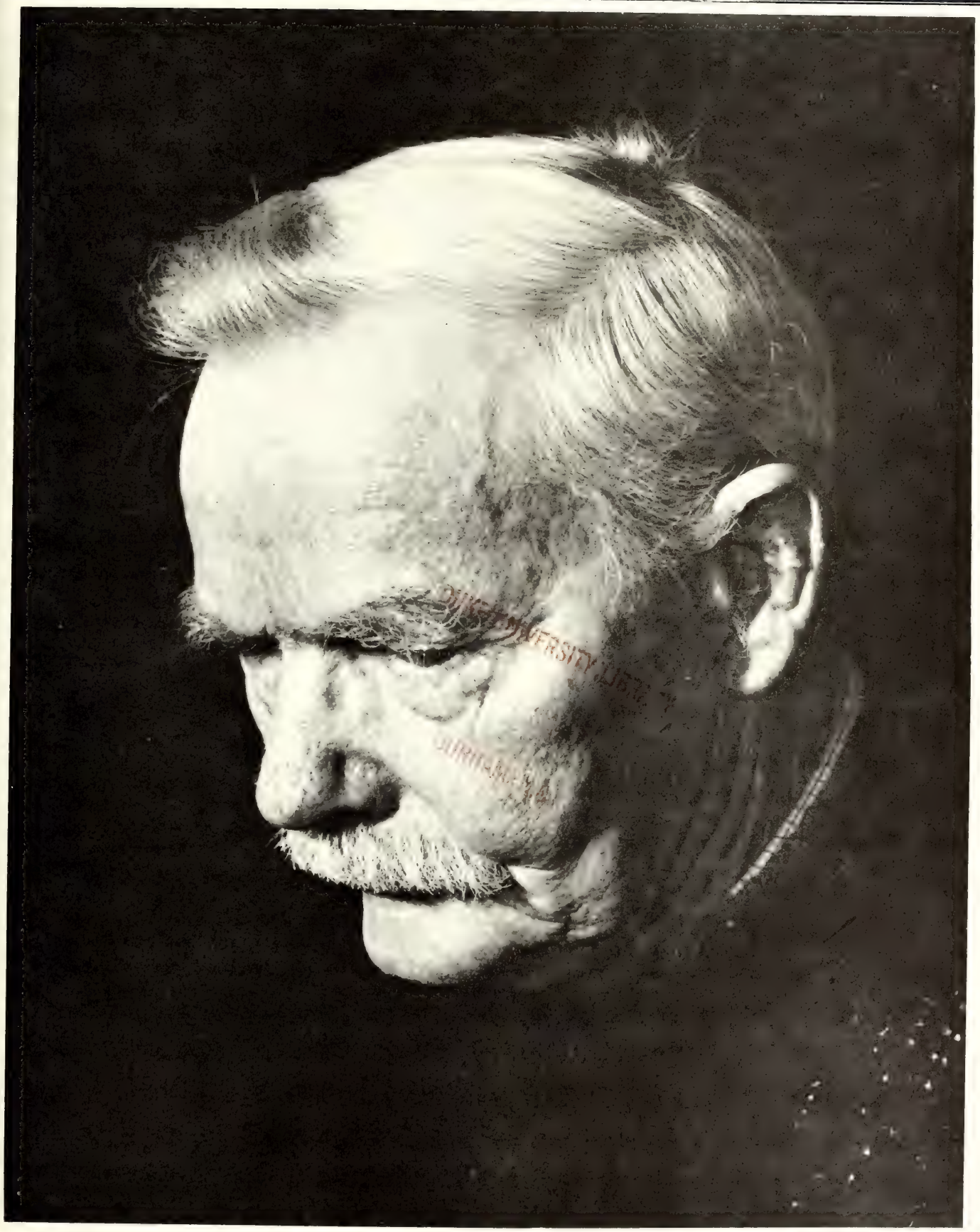

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 98 Number 38

October 12, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, Whiteville, Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

Dewey Boling, President; C. Felton Godwin, Vice President; Ruth Taylor, Secretary; Adrian Grubbs, Assistant Secretary; Robert May; Eddie Edwards; Marice DeBruhl; James Billy Hardee; De Wayne Eakes; David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, **Executive Director;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

Editorial

I'll Take One from Column A and . . .

"Jesus insisted that His Kingdom was not of this world and bade His disciples to act accordingly." The time was when people took Christ's words seriously, when Christians lived committed lives, when churches were "on fire" for the Lord. "Until very recently, most United States Christians assumed that by joining a church they could at least distance themselves from the corrosive influences of secular society."

But times have changed.

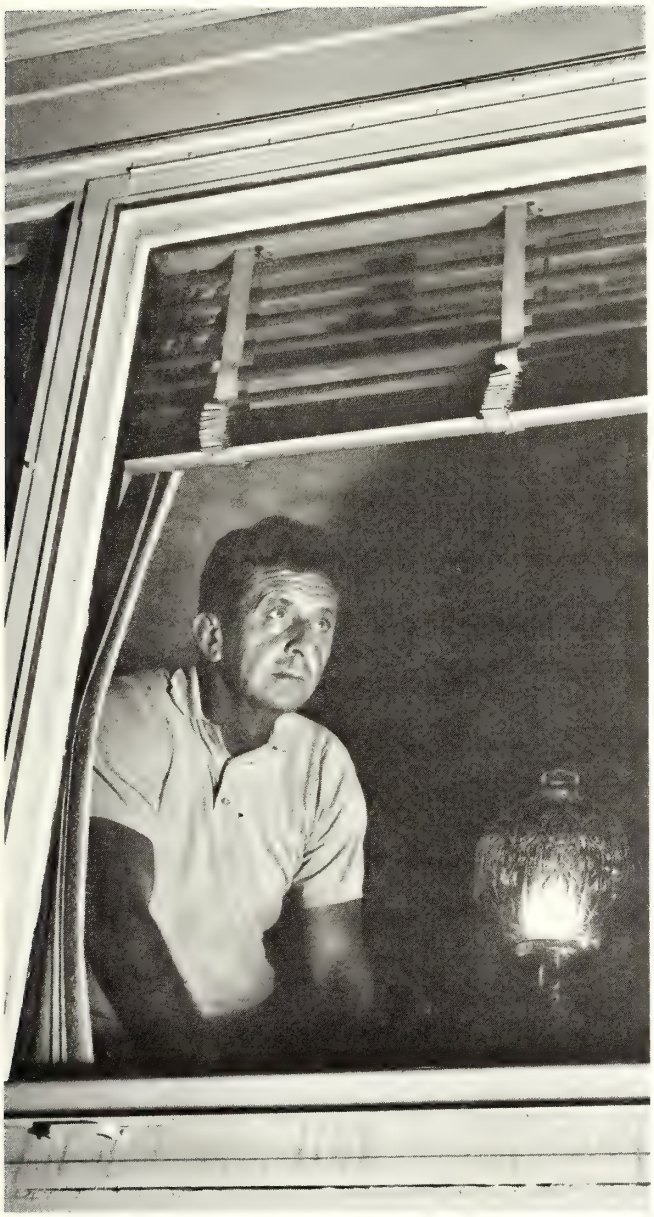
According to a three-year study of Minnesota Christians, published in September under the name *Faith and Ferment,* "churches are no longer sanctuaries—if they ever were—against moral confusion, theological ambiguity, social conflict and family disintegration." Although this report is limited to a single state, the research is of such depth and breadth that it raises serious questions about how United States Christians interpret and practice their faith. To say the least, it gives us all reasons to be disturbed.

If Minnesotans are any measure, today's Christians have lost their sense of group identity. Instead of holding on to church traditions, beliefs, and practices, today's church goers have developed a "pick-and-choose Christianity," one in which Christians take what they want from tradition and pass over that which does not fit into their own spirituality. Two-thirds of those surveyed saw no harm whatsoever in rejecting church doctrine. One woman put it thus: "I feel that in religious training, as in any other training, you are taught the basics. From these basics, you sort out what you want or pick it apart as you see fit."

A pervasive sense of sin has also been left behind. Although ninety-eight percent said they believe in personal sin, only fifty-seven percent accepted the belief that all people are sinful. One-third of the respondents indicated that they "make many mistakes but are not sinful themselves." In short, Christians tend to attribute sin only to others.

This pick-and-choose approach also affects attitudes toward worship. Less than one in ten cited worship as the primary reason they attend church. The returns also showed a strong preference for "free-form over formal communication with God."

"In two or three decades in the Minnesotas of America, there has been more sudden change than in the previous two millennia of church history" (Martin Marty). Frankly, this alarms me! I wonder how long this will continue. The



survey "confirms a dangerous loss of identity, not only by denominations but by American Christianity itself." If what has been revealed by this study "has national resonance, one thing seems clear: church is now less a place where Christians worship God than an arena where they wrestle with Him—and with each other."

I intend to study this report carefully; I want to see how we as Original Free Will Baptists stand in comparison. But even at this point, I know our people have lost their sense of identity. Many of our church leaders have never read our *Articles of Faith.* Some of our people cannot explain basic doctrines like our interpretation of the Doctrine of the Perseverance of the Saints and Individual Accountability. Many act as though the words of our Church Covenant are completely meaningless. I cannot overemphasize the seriousness of this situation.

Following this is a copy of our Church Covenant. I challenge you to read and digest it. May we come to know what it means to be Original Free Will Baptists once more.

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, the abuse of drugs, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and public worship and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel; nor fail to give according to our ability for the support of the church and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace," to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles and obligations supreme, esteem it our chief business to make Christ known to the world, and constantly pray and toil that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

To this end we agree to co-operate in the promotion of denominational institutions and enterprises, the support of the work of the local church, and the evangelization of the world.

May the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Because of His Love . . .

Mrs. Minnie Hansley Chandler went to be with the Lord Thursday, September 29, 1983, after an extended bout with cancer. Those of us who knew her feel that our lives were made better as a result, for in her we saw our Lord personified.

The Rev. C. L. Patrick officiated at her memorial service, held Sunday, October 2, in the sanctuary of Bethany Church, the church she had come to call her own. Her body was laid to rest in Vanceboro.

Surviving Mrs. Chandler are two sons, Charlie Lee of Portland, Oregon, and Edwin Carroll of Winterville; one daughter, Mrs. Cordelia Kaye Williams of Kinston; her mother, Mrs. Sunie Adie Hansley of Sneads Ferry; two brothers, the Revs. David W. of La Grange, and Carol B. of Newport; three sisters, Mrs. Kathleen Everett of Sneads Ferry, Mrs. Beulah Cox of Walstonburg, Mrs. Virginia Hardison of Sneads Ferry; and sixteen grandchildren. Mrs. Chandler was the widow of the Rev. A. B. Chandler.

In lieu of other remembrances, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to the A. B. and Minnie Chandler Scholarship Fund at Mount Olive College or the Cragmont Assembly general fund.

Several weeks prior to her death, Mrs. Chandler carried the following prayer to church with her and asked Mr. Patrick to share it with the congregation. This prayer was read during her funeral and we feel it appropriate to share it with you.

MY TESTIMONY,
MY THANKSGIVING, MY PRAYER

Father, I thank Thee for every blessing of life for I know that all blessings are gifts from You. I thank Thee most of all for my abiding faith.

I thank You for the privilege of having been a minister's wife, for that afforded me opportunities to work in churches which he pastored and in my beloved denomination. It gave me the opportunity to come to know so many dear friends that I would never have known otherwise. These have blessed my life in such a rich way.

I thank Thee for my children, my family and for giving me health and strength for the greater part of my life and a willingness to do my little bit wherever I could. I pray that You would forgive me for the unheeded opportunities that I allowed to slip by me. Those are my biggest regrets.

Father, I pray for healing. There are still so many things that I would like to do. And yet, Lord, You know how You can best use my life. Help me to be submissive to Your will in my life. Thou knowest that it isn't always easy.

I especially thank You, Lord, for the More Abundant life; for the Peace that passeth understanding that only You can give. I know that this Peace is in answer to so many prayers that have gone up for me. I thank You, Lord, for my many friends who are praying. I have needed their prayers so desperately. I have felt them and I am so grateful for every one of them.

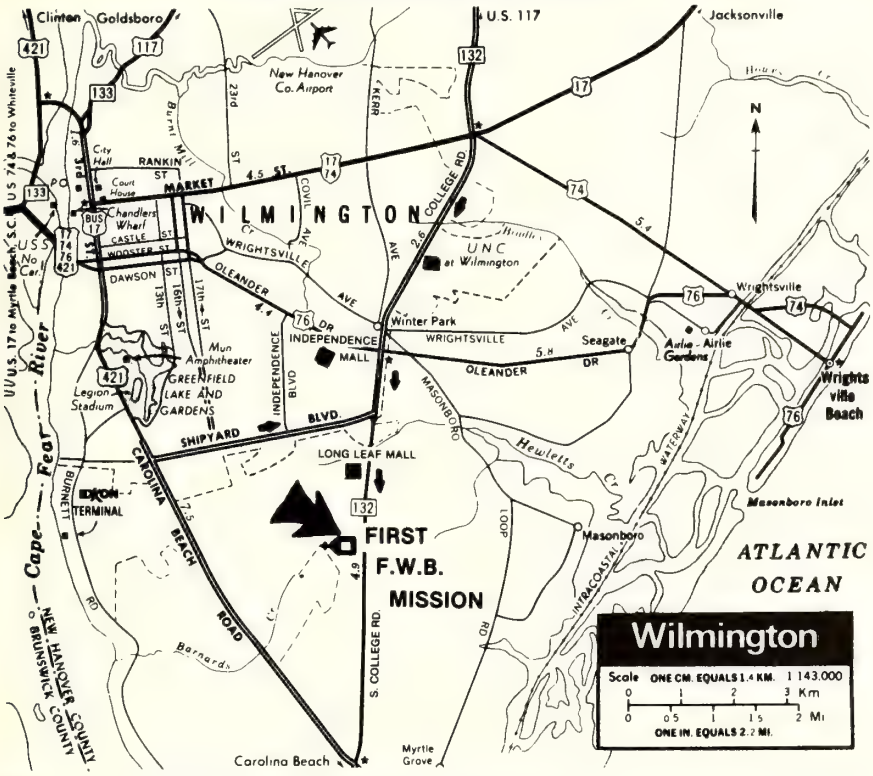
Father, I pray for my children, my grandchildren and so many young persons and couples that I have claimed as my own that they, too, might completely surrender their lives to You and be able to claim that more Abundant Life and Peace that only You can give.

Father, I thank You for these, my very dear friends, who have been so kind in so many ways. I thank You and them for the visits, the cards, the calls, the flowers, the gifts, the food, the fruits and vegetables, for taking me for treatments when I know it has been such a hot, busy time and for their love offering. I believe they know how much it has helped me and what a blessing it has proved to be. Lord, I pray that You would pour out a very special blessing upon them for their kindness to me.

Bless this pastor, his wife and family and this Church with spiritual blessings never experienced before and may You help each one of us as Christians to so live that others may fully see Christ in our lives and so glorify Thy name. Amen. Amen.

Minnie Chandler

EASTERN CONFERENCE



RESERVATIONS

MOTELS	LOCATION	PHONE
Econo Travel Lodge	4118 Market Street	762-4426
Day's Inn	5040 Market Street	799-6300
Ramada Inn	5001 Market Street	799-1730
Holiday Inn	4903 Market Street	799-1440
Best Western	2916 Market Street	763-4653
Silver Gull	Wrightsville Beach	256-3728
Waterway Motor Lodge	Wrightsville Beach	

The Eighty-Eighth Annual Session of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina will meet at the Wilmington Free Will Baptist Mission on October 19, 20, 1983. The scheduled program is as follows:

WEDNESDAY MORNING

9:30—Registration, Ministers, Delegates, Visitors
10:00—Scripture and Prayer, Mr. Jack Webb
10:10—Conference Called to Order, Conference Clerk
—Welcome to Wilmington, Wilmington Mission
—Response, the Rev. Walter Sutton
10:20—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Carol B. Hansley
10:30—Roll Call of Ministers, Receive Church Letters
—Partial Report of Credentials Committee
—Seating of Delegates
—Recognize and Welcome Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
10:55—Report of Camp Vandemere, Inc.
—Receive Camp Vandemere Offering
11:05—Report from Mount Olive College
11:15—Worship Service
—Introductory Sermon, the Rev. Clifton Rice
12:00—Lunch-Fellowship Time

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

1:30—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Chris Singleton
1:40—Report of Executive Committee
1:45—Report of Examining Board
1:50—Report from the North Carolina Board of Superannuation
1:55—Report from the General Conference
2:00—Report from the North Carolina State Convention
2:05—Report from the North Carolina Ministerial Association
2:10—Report from the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
2:15—Report from the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention
2:20—Report from the Church Finance Association
2:25—Miscellaneous Business
2:45—Recess

WEDNESDAY EVENING

7:30-8:45—Mission Board-Camp Vandemere Rally
—Worship and Praise Service
—Service Leader, the Rev. Walter J. Sutton, Chairman of Eastern Conference Mission Board; the Rev. Ralph Sumner, Chairman of Camp Vandemere Board
—Hymn 108, "Praise Him! Praise Him!"
—Devotional and Prayer, the Rev. James Gurganus
—Special Music, Faith Free Will Baptist Church, the Rev. Roger Heath, Pastor
—Who Is Here? the Rev. Walter J. Sutton
—Camp Vandemere, the Rev. Ralph Sumner
—Special Music, Folkstone Youth Choir
—Chorus Music and Testimony Time, the Rev. David C. Hansley
—Eastern Conference Mission Report, the Rev. Walter J. Sutton
—Offertory Prayer, the Rev. Roger Heath
—Worship Offerings
—Special Music, Miss Gwen Yarborough
—Thoughts from Our Mission:
—the Revs. Roger Heath, Faith; Jerry Rowe, Western Conference Fellowship; David C. Hansley, First, Wilmington
—Inspiration Thoughts, the Rev. Ransom McAbee
—Hymn of Invitation 313, "Just As I Am"
—Benediction, the Rev. Ralph Sumner

THURSDAY MORNING

9:30—Registration for Those Not Yet Registered
10:00—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Wayne King
10:10—Read and Approve Minutes of Previous Day
—Roll Call of Ministers Absent Wednesday
10:25—Report from the Retirement Homes
10:30—Report from Cragmont Assembly, Inc.
10:35—Report from the Eastern Conference Mission Board
10:40—Report from Foreign Missions Board
10:45—Report from the North Carolina Church Extension Board
10:50—Report from the Children's Home
10:55—Report from the State Sunday School Convention
11:00—Report from the State League Convention

(Turn the Page)

11:10—Worship Service
—Conference Offering
—Conference Sermon, the Rev. Howard Starling
12:00—Lunch-Fellowship Time

THURSDAY AFTERNOON
1:30—Memorial Services, Memorial Committee
1:45—Final Report of Credentials Committee
—Final Report of the Examining Board
2:00—Committee Reports
—Temperance
—Digest
—Finance Committee
—Treasurer's Report
—Resolutions Committee
—Nominations
—Elections
3:00—Miscellaneous Business
—Read and Approve Minutes
—Installation of Officers and Committee Members
3:15—Adjournment-Closing Hymn-Benediction
Moderator, the Rev. Carol B. Hansley
Assistant Moderator, the Rev. A. Graham Lane
Clerk, the Rev. Frank Grubbs
Treasurer, Mr. S. Woodrow McCoy
Member-at-large, the Rev. Stanley Buck

Mission/Camp Vandemere Rally

A giant Eastern Conference Mission/Camp Vandemere Rally will be held Wednesday evening, October 19, 1983, with the First Free Will Baptist Mission of Wilmington, 4602 South College Road, Wilmington, North Carolina. The service will begin at 7:30.

The churches of the Eastern Conference are requested to represent with a large delegation and a special gift. These gifts will be divided between the Eastern Conference Missions Board and the Camp Vandemere Board.

Brother David Charles Hansley and his congregation, and Brother Roger and his congregation join with the Eastern Conference Missions Board and the Camp Vandemere Board in extending this invitation to the churches of the Eastern Conference to become a part of this giant effort for the course of the Mission and Youth Ministries of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists.

Church Sign Erected At Robert's Grove

The people of Robert's Grove Church, Route 1, Dunn, feel very fortunate to have a beautiful sign standing on the front lawn at the church in memory of Mr. J. T. Faircloth.

The Faircloth family have also placed fifty Bibles in the bookracks on the church pews in memory of him. He dearly loved the Lord and his church, his family and the many friends who knew him. It is very fitting to have these memorials donated to the church.

Revival Services to Be Held At Rose Hill Church

Revival services will be held at Rose Hill Church, Route 1, Winterville, October 24-28. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Bruce Jones will be the evangelist. There will be special music each night. The Rev. Leon Harris is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Cape Fear Union to Meet

The Cape Fear Union will meet at Johnston Union Church, Route 1, Clayton, on October 29. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotion, Calvin Mercer
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response, Lawrence Garris
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading of Minutes of Last Union
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Message, the Rev. Danny Braswell
12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Committees
—Unfinished Business
—Benediction and Adjournment
—Lunch and Christian Fellowship
Moderator, the Rev. Jeff Scarborough
Secretary, Mrs. Ruth Warrick

Homecoming and Revival At Bethany Church

On Sunday, October 16, Bethany Church, located near Winterville, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming service beginning at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served during the noon hour followed by a program of gospel music and Christian fellowship.

Beginning on Monday night, October 17, at 7:30, and continuing through Friday night, October 21, the Rev. De Wayne Eakes of Lucama, North Carolina, will be the evangelist for the fall revival. In addition to the gospel message there will be special music each evening. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend.

May's Chapel Church Is Having Revival

May's Chapel Church is holding its fall revival through October 14, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Ray Williamson, pastor of Gum Swamp Church near Greenville, is the guest evangelist. There will be special music each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Andrew Hill, and the congregation invite the public to attend. The church is located on Highway 117 South, midway between Goldsboro and Mount Olive.

Upcoming Revival Services At Arapahoe Church

Revival services are scheduled to be held at the Arapahoe Church, Arapahoe, on October 24-28, with services beginning at 7:30 p.m. The guest

evangelist for the week will be the Rev. Calvin Heath, pastor of Free Union Church, Walstonburg. There will be special music each evening. A nursery will be provided. The pastor, the Rev. Doug Skinner, invites everyone to attend these service.

Reedy Branch Church Family Night

On Friday evening, September 30, the Couples Class of the Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, held their annual Family Night in the Wilson Fellowship Hall.

Crafts made and donated by the members of the church were sold in a Country Store and many items were auctioned off to members of the church and their invited guests. There were woodcraft items, needlework, paintings, quilts and canned goods.

This Sunday school class has been sponsoring the Family Night for many years and through their efforts, thousands of dollars have been raised for the denomination and the local church in promoting God's work.

This year the proceeds amounted to over $4,000. The funds will be divided four ways: 20% to Foreign Missions, 20% to Cragmont Assembly, 20% to the Children's Home, and 40% to be used in the local church.

Earl Deal is the teacher of the class and the Rev. Willis Wilson is pastor of the church.

Revival Services at Aspen Grove Church

Aspen Grove Church near Fountain will begin its fall revival on October 24, and continue through October 28. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Walter Reynolds of Winterville is the evangelist for these services. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Revival Services to Be Held At Owens Chapel Church

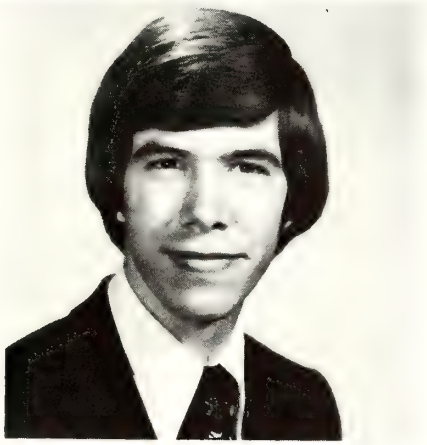
Revival will begin on Monday, October 17, and will continue through Saturday, October 22, at Owens Chapel Church, Route 3, Elm City. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special singing each night. The Rev. M. E. Cox of Durham, North Carolina, will be the guest evangelist.

The pastor, the Rev. Melvin Moore, and the church members invite everyone to attend these services.

Faith Mission Becomes a Church

Faith Mission of Leland will be organized into a church on October 18, at 7:30 p.m. It is located on Old Highway 74 and 76. Everyone is invited to attend this service.

Special Services Scheduled At Marlboro Church



The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood

Marlboro Church, Route 1, Farmville, will begin a series of revival services on Sunday evening, October 16. These services, which continue through Wednesday, October 19, will feature the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood as guest evangelist. Mr. Hobgood serves La Grange Church as pastor and is a native of Farmville. Special music is planned nightly. The Sunday evening service will begin at 7, with worship beginning at 7:30, Monday through Wednesday.

The church will celebrate its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 23. Services begin that day with Sunday school at 9:45. The morning worship service will begin at 11, with the pastor, the Rev. Scott Sowers, delivering the sermon. A bountiful lunch will be spread afterwards. A memorial service and singspiration will follow.

The entire church membership extends a cordial invitation to everyone to join them for these services.

Eastern District Women Met

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention met at Faith Mission in Leland, North Carolina, September 22, 1983, with a registration of 84.

The theme for the day was "We Can Do All Things Through Christ." The president, Mrs. Rena Kirk, presided over the convention. Special music throughout the day was brought to the convention by Marlene Everett, Linda Brown, and the Rev. David C. Hansley.

The Life Membership Certificate and Pin Award were presented to Versie Baldree of New Bern.

Mrs. Deborah King brought the morning message.

After a delicious meal, an inspiring memorial service written by Mrs. Elizabeth Hansley was presented by Marlene Everett.

The Resolutions Committee gave to the women these resolutions:

1. We, the women of the Woman's Auxiliary, are aware of the wonderful opportunity we have to serve the Lord through our auxiliary work. And be it resolved that we accept the challenges presented to us by our President and speaker of the morning that as women we roll up our sleeves, get on our knees and become "gimpers" through our work for the Lord.

2. Be it resolved that this convention give a rising vote of

(Continued on Page 15)

Foreign Missions

THE FUTURE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS IS IN YOUR HANDS

The Rev. Harold Jones

(Remarks made by Harold Jones, Director of Foreign Missions, at the State Convention)

Last year in my report I said, "The future of Foreign Missions is in your hands, I believe they are good hands, and I believe we are going to experience tremendous growth in the years ahead as we gain a new awareness that 'the Supreme Task of the Church is the Evangelization of the World.' " I still believe this. I do not believe you are ready to retreat from the field, but rather that you are ready to advance. I believe you will show this during the 1983-84 church year.

In our Church Covenant we make two statements about world evangelism that we need to seriously consider. FIRST: We say, "We esteem it our chief business to make Christ known to the world." SECOND: We say, "To this end we agree to cooperate in the promotion of denominational institutions and enterprises, the support of the work of the local church, 'And the evangelization of the world.' " This is a world of almost 5 billion people, and approximately half have yet to hear the claims of Jesus Christ; 94% of the world's population live beyond the borders of our own country. Our chief business is to make Christ known to the *whole* world. "THE WORLD IS THE FIELD." "No one people on earth has the corner on soul value." The gospel must be preached *simultaneously* to all people. The tragic thing is this is not being done and millions die every year without ever hearing the gospel. *Simultaneously* is the word. Not here, then there, for no one can wait on dying.

We as Free Will Baptists have only established beachheads in three countries outside the United States of America—in Mexico, the Philippines and India. But there are 220 countries on our earth. A beachhead is not victory. Each year between four and five hundred souls are won to Christ on these fields. This is evidence that all we have are beachheads and not a simultaneous witness that covers the whole of these countries. I believe the Board of Foreign Missions has formulated a good plan for action, but the determination and resources to accomplish this must come from you. The future of Foreign Missions is in your hands.

The following three recommendations were approved by the State Convention. Please read these carefully.

(1) That the Convention approve a budget of $290,499.47 for the year 1983-84. I would like to comment on this. Some say we can't do more than we are doing. I can't believe that Free Will Baptists have gone as far as they can in financing world evangelism.

Suppose there are only 40,000 Free Will Baptists—15¢ a week from each one would more than meet this budget. If there are only 20,000 Free Will Baptists—30¢ a week from each one would more than meet this budget; 10,000 Free Will Baptists 60¢ a week—5,000 Free Will Baptists $1.20 a week—2,500 Free Will Baptists $2.40 a week, etc.

I believe it is a matter of priority rather than a lack of funds. If we esteem it our chief business to make Christ known to the world. We can surely do this and more.

We have a plan that will help meet this budget. This is called Compassion Bank Giving. For this to work, your cooperation is needed. It will not take away from your regular church financial needs, nor is it designed to be a substitute for your present Foreign Missions giving; to do this would be self-defeating. It is designed to increase funding, so we can do our part in world evangelization.

We have an exciting media presentation with a sound track prepared that fully explains the Compassion Bank concept of giving. Brother Pastor and church members, I ask you to give me an opportunity to visit your church on Sunday night, Wednesday night or any other night convenient to you to share this with your church. The Foreign Missions program belongs to the Free Will Baptist people. You have the opportunity to assure its continued growth. *It's in your hands!*

(2) That the Convention encourage every member to be a faithful Foreign Missions Prayer Partner. Without a strong prayer base, all our efforts will be in vain.

(3) That the months of December and March continue to be designated as Foreign Missions Months in our State Convention Calendar, and that our churches remember the life and work of the Rev. J. E. Timmons through the "Memorial

(Continued on Page 15)

PICTURE AVAILABLE

Recently Mr. M. E. Sexton of 2039 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh, N.C. 27608, came by our campus and presented the Children's Home with the original photograph and negative of the above picture. This was very generous of Mr. Sexton and we appreciate his kindness so much. As he shared with us, so we would like an opportunity to share with Free Will Baptists who have also shared with us through the years. We would like to extend to each of our churches the opportunity for them to have a copy of this picture to display in their church facilities. We will have color copies of this picture, 16 inches by 12 inches, available at the conferences this fall. There will be no charge for the pictures.

CHURCH VISITS BY COLLEGE PERSONNEL
Sunday, October 16

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president, will be the speaker at Piney Grove Church, Johnston County. At 10 a.m. he will teach the combined Sunday school classes. He will also be speaker for the 11 a.m. worship service. The Rev. Charles L. Renfrow is pastor.

Dr. Opey D. Jeanes, vice president and dean, will be the speaker during the 11 a.m. service at May's Chapel Church, Wayne County. His topic will be on the transition of Mount Olive College to four-year status. The Rev. Andrew Hill is pastor.

Dr. Michael Pelt, chairman of the Humanities Division, will be the guest speaker for the 11 a.m. homecoming service at Moseley's Creek Church, Craven County. The Rev. Bob Fussell is pastor.

Wesley Beddard, associate director of Admissions will speak at Aspen Grove Church in Wilson County. At 10 a.m. he will teach a combined session of the adult and teenage Sunday school classes. His topic will be "Educational Opportunities at Mount Olive College." He will also speak during the morning worship service and the message will be entitled "The Salt of the Earth."

Dianne B. Riley, director of admissions, will be the speaker at Holly Springs Church, Newport. She will visit with the high school Sunday school classes, sharing the educational opportunities for Free Will Baptist young people at Mount Olive College. She will provide special music and bring the morning message during the worship hour. The Rev. O. B. Jones is pastor.

THE NEW CREATIONS TO SING
Sunday, October 16

The New Creations will sing at the 11 a.m. worship service at Gum Swamp Church, Greenville, and at the 7 p.m. worship service at Piney Grove Church, Greenville.

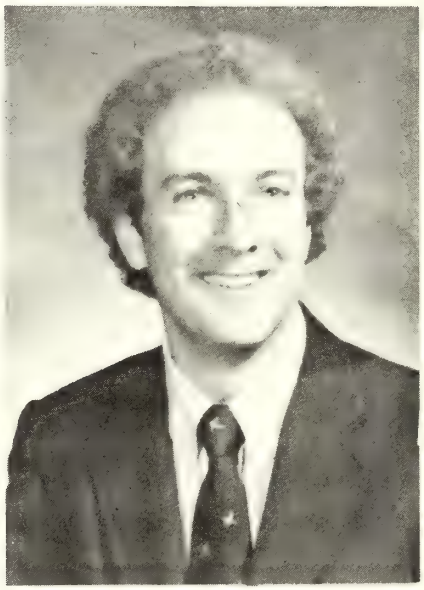
FALL VISITATION DAYS

High school students and their parents are invited to visit the Mount Olive College campus during fall visitation days on Friday, October 14; Saturday, November 5; and Friday, November 11.

Events will begin in the Henderson Building at 10 a.m. and will include campus tours, and lunch. Counselors will be available to answer questions regarding admissions, financial aid, academic planning and student life.

Entertainment by the Mount Olive Singers will be provided during each visitation day. Auditions for the Singers will be held November 5.

TRUSTEE IS NAMED AT MOC



The Rev. Melvin Ray Williamson, pastor of Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, has been elected to a six-year term on the Board of Trustees at Mount Olive College.

Mr. Williamson attended Tarboro High School, Martin Community College and Mount Olive College. He graduated with honors from North Carolina State University in 1978 and received his master's degree in counseling from East Carolina University in 1983.

Active in youth and church work, Mr. Williamson served as a 4-H and Youth Agent, Agricultural Extension Service and as a Youth Minister at the Enfield Baptist Church.

Prior to his present pastorate, Mr. Williamson was pastor of Rock of Zion Church, Pamlico County, from 1977 to 1981.

The newly elected Trustee was ordained into the ministry in 1978, served on the Free Will Baptist Eastern Conference Missions Board and presently is a member of the Central Conference Ordaining Council.

Mr. Williamson and his wife, Evelyn, live in the Belvoir community. They are the parents of two children, Brad and Cherry.

NOTE OF THANKS

We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation and thanks for your prayers, cards, gifts, calls and your kind thoughts for us during my recent hospitalization. It has meant so much to us. Thank the Lord I am home now and able to help with light chores in our day to day living.

Lest we overlook any individual, Sunday school class, circle, auxiliary, board or any group in expressing your concern for us, we are hoping this note in the "Baptist" will reach everyone.

Please keep us both in your prayers and may the Lord continue to bless and keep each of you in our prayer.

Yours to serve.

Fay A. Evans and family

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Bass Mitchell has a change of address. It is Route 5, Box 91-A, Kinston, North Carolina 28501. His telephone number is 527-8751.

CONTRIBUTIONS
Total $33,278.04
Receipts for July 1, 1983–September 30, 1983

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Albemarle District Auxiliary Convention	$ 232.00
Albemarle Union Meeting	5.00
Albemarle Layman's League	100.00
Cape Colony	61.12
Hickory Chapel	268.09
Mount Tabor	50.00
Mount Zion	100.00
Saint Paul	97.50
Shiloh	195.25
Sidney	25.00
Union Chapel	124.30
Total	$1,258.26

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel	$ 20.00
Cape Fear Missions Board	38.58
Casey's Chapel	140.50
Goldsboro, First	520.00
Haymount	557.94
Lee's Chapel	241.00
Mount Olive	10.00
Oak Grove	25.00
Palmer Memorial	193.29
Pleasant Grove	300.00
Powhatan	493.47
Riverside	200.00
Robert's Grove	325.00
Saint Mary's Grove	110.15
Shady Grove	15.21
Smithfield, First	70.00
Tee's Chapel	200.00
Yelverton Grove	153.75
Total	$3,613.89

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	$ 10.00
Ayden	100.00
Bethany	184.50
Black Jack	6.34
Central Conference Home Missions Board	450.00
Community	93.74
Daniels Chapel	364.30
Dilda's Grove	20.00
Edgewood	23.66
Elm Grove	5.02
Fourth Union	17.36
Free Union	38.00
Friendship (Greene County)	538.44
Greenville, First	125.00
Grifton Mission	92.00
Grimsley	85.00
Gum Swamp	100.00
Harrell's Chapel	225.00
Hickory Grove	17.78
Hugo	358.90
Hull Road	250.00
King's Cross Roads	1,219.39
La Grange	8.00
Little Creek	230.00
Marlboro	572.50
Otter's Creek	26.93
Owens Chapel	150.00
Peace	176.25
Piney Grove (Pitt)	110.14
Reedy Branch	204.20
Rocky Mount, First	125.00
Rose Hill	110.00
Rose of Sharon	251.91
Saratoga	130.40
Second Union	14.20
Second Union Sunday School Convention	100.00
Spring Branch	200.00
Sweet Gum Grove	190.00
Tarboro, First	375.00
Williamston, First	31.09
Winterville	420.67
Total	$7,650.72

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	$ 100.00
Arapahoe	553.37
Beulaville	35.00
Bridgeton	103.00
Cabin	20.00
Christian Chapel	200.00
Core Creek	540.00
Core Point Chapel	40.00
Croatan	20.00
Daly's Chapel	100.00
Davis	100.00
Dublin Grove	10.00
Eastern Conference Missions Board	500.00
Edwards Chapel	10.00
Faith (Morehead)	100.00
Faith Mission (Leland)	7.00
Folkstone	155.00
Friendship	50.00
Gospel Outreach	5.00
Grants Chapel	50.00
Hillsberry	25.00
Holly Springs	866.59
Indian Springs	10.00
Jackson Heights	153.91
Juniper Chapel	319.81
Kinston, First	60.00
May's Chapel	182.00
Mount Zion (Pamlico County)	25.00
Mount Zion (Onslow County)	20.00
Moseley's Creek	70.00
New Bethlehem	50.00
New Haven	50.00
Northeast	405.00
Oak Grove	160.50
Oriental	10.00
Pearsall Chapel	95.00
Pilgrim's Home	150.00
Pilgrims Rest	40.00
Piney Grove	15.00
Rock of Zion	615.00
Rooty Branch	25.00
Russell's Creek	15.00
St. Mary's	270.00
Sandy Plain	345.00
Sarecta	20.00
Smith's New Home	55.35
Smyrna	50.00
Snow Hill	200.00
Sound View	112.96
Spring Hope	45.00
Third Union District	396.81
Trent	100.00
Verona	150.00
Wardens Grove	56.72
Warsaw	100.00
Welcome Home	225.00
Westside	355.00
Whaley's Chapel	215.00
White Hill	45.00
White Oak	11.75
Wintergreen	125.00
Woodrow, First	20.00
Total	$8,959.77

INDIVIDUALS

Albertson, Dale	$ 130.00
Anderson's Department Store	5.00
Ard, Mr. and Mrs. Norman	40.00
Ayden Loan and Insurance Company	10.00
Baker, Paul	25.00
Baker, Sallie	60.00
Baldree, Versie	10.00
Beaman, Helen T.	30.00
Benton, Joseph B., III	10.00
Best, Mrs. James P.	5.00
Blackmon, Cecil	10.00
Blinson, Mr. and Mrs. J. C.	50.00
Boswell, Rupert J.	25.00
Boyette, Eva T.	30.00
Briley, Gerald W.	5.00
Bum's Restaurant	10.00
Bunn, Zora W.	10.00
Cahoon, James W.	10.00
Camp Eagles Nest	100.00
Coats, C. M.	30.00
Crumpler, Georgia H.	30.00
Davis, Mrs. Jesse I.	10.00
Driver, Lula L.	1.00
Edwards, Eddie	57.00
Elks, Mrs. Billy R.	20.00
Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald	20.00
Fulcher, Hubert W.	10.00
Futrelle, Foy	40.00
Gardner, Mrs. Carlton	10.00
Gillikin, Norman W.	50.00
Glisson, Frances	20.00
Goodson, Mrs. Kermit	10.00
Grimsley, John W.	100.00
Hansley, David W.	37.00
Harrison, Franklin M.	10.00
Harrison, Hildred	50.00
Harris, Gladys	10.00
Harris, Hugh	10.00
Harris, Floyd P.	100.00
Hart, Mrs. Wilbur	30.00
Harrison, Mrs. W. B.	10.00
Hawkins, H. M.	50.00
Hayes, Jenny	25.00
Heath, James	5.00
Herndon, Sarah	25.00
Hott, T. W.	20.00
Howell, W. H.	20.00
Hurst, Esther	25.00
Jackson, Lou Esther	20.00
Jones, Eula	10.00
Jones, Ralph E.	10.00
Joe Jones Superette	10.00
Jones, Bruce	150.00
Joyner, Brenda G.	20.00
Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur	100.00
Kennedy, Dean	50.00

(Continued on Page 15)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

Scripture Reading—Acts 27

GO OUT QUICKLY!

One Sunday morning, in 1856, a congregation of well-dressed people had been ushered to their rented pews in Chicago's Plymouth Congregational Church. Suddenly there was a commotion near the door. Many turned and looked. Something occurred which had never before been seen by that elite congregation. In walked a young man—a nineteen-year-old salesman. Following him was a motley group of tramps, slum people and alcoholics. The young man led them into four pews he had personally rented for the visitors. He continued to do this important work each Sunday until God called him into a world-wide ministry. You ask the name of that young man? *Dwight L. Moody!*

The chief business of the church is to win lost people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17

Scripture Reading—Acts 28; Romans 1

AS THE STARS FOR EVER!

Shortly before Moody left for Kansas City, where he died of a heart attack, he preached from the text: "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever" (Daniel 12:3).

Among others who spoke at Moody's funeral service was Dr. C. I. Scofield. While he was in the midst of his message, the sun burst through a leaden sky. A ray of light shone through a window and rested on Moody's face in the casket. Scofield paused and made reference to it. He and the sorrowing friends and loved ones thought of the words: "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament."

Moody was interred at the close of a short, bleak, wintry day. When the words of committal were spoken at his graveside, the overcast sky was rent and revealed the bright evening star above the western horizon. Then the thoughts of friends and loved ones reverted to the words: "And they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."

To win men to an acceptance of Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord is the only reason Christians are left in this world.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

Scripture Reading—Romans 2, 3

SUICIDES AVERTED

God spoke to a Chicago minister in reference to going to the unreached ones in their homes, the majority of whom never cross the threshold of any church. One day, when he knocked at the door of an apartment, a man answered the call. A frightened look of despair was on the man's face. He asked what the caller wanted. The minister replied, "I want to talk to you about the Lord Jesus!" The man burst into tears and said, "Man, God must have sent you here! Just before you knocked, my wife and I had closed all the doors and windows of our small apartment, intending next to turn on the gas and end our lives. You see, we just buried our darling child who was the idol of our hearts. We felt that our sorrow was more than we could bear!" Entering the apartment, God's servant told the despairing couple of the Saviour, and how in Him they could find peace and healing for their sorrowing hearts.

Oh, give me, Lord, Thy love for souls,
For lost and wand'ring sheep,
That I may see the multitudes,
And weep as Thou dids't weep.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

Scripture Reading—Romans 4, 5

YOU GAVE CHRIST TO ME!

Shortly after the Rev. Charles R. Goff became pastor of the Methodist Temple in the heart of Chicago's Loop, he felt the need of a Christian painting to impress the endless stream of visitors to the temple. He arranged for an interview with Warner Sallman. The result was that Sallman's "Head of Christ" was given a place of honor in the temple.

During the interview Sallman told the pastor, "I have been waiting for years to tell you that it was you who gave me that picture! You gave Christ to me!"

Years before, Dr. Goff had delivered a series of Bible talks in a Y.M.C.A. One of these talks caused Sallman to get a vision of the wondrous Saviour. That night, while asleep, he saw a vision of the head of Christ. When he awoke, he made a sketch of what he had seen, and from that sketch he painted the picture. Fifty million copies of this painting have been made—more than of any other picture, modern or medieval.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 8)

Christmas Fund" for Foreign Missions.

Please give me an opportunity to come to your church and share the Compassion Bank concept of giving. Write Harold Jones, P.O. Box 38, Ayden, North Carolina 28513 or call (office) 746-4963, (home) 756-9732. Call today!

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 7)

thanks to the ladies of Faith Mission and First Wilmington for the wonderful hospitality and fellowship shown us and for making this day a wonderful day to remember.

At this time, we heard from our denominational enterprises and then we dismissed.

Linda Caroon, *Secretary*

Fall Bazaar at Howell Swamp Church

Howell Swamp Church Woman's Auxiliary is having a fall bazaar beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 15, at the church fellowship hall near Walstonburg, North Carolina. Homemade and homegrown items will be for sale. Barbeque chicken plates will be available.

HOME MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 11)

Kennedy, Rocky	10.00
Krouse, Helen J.	10.00
Link, Mattie H.	10.00
McCoy, L. V.	30.00
Manning, Elza	20.00
Mixon, Sudie	10.00
Mizell, Irvin	30.00
Morris, Mrs. E. C.	40.00
Nealey, Wade	20.00
Owens, James R.	10.00
Pope, Geneva	10.00
Price, John	25.00
Price, Mozelle	25.00
Proctor, Layden	25.00
Reliable Cleaners	10.00
Roper, Mr. and Mrs. E. G.	10.00
Sawyer, Letha	15.00
Sawyer, Mary	10.00
Speight, Melvin	5.00
Starling, W. Howard	100.00
Starnes, Addie	10.00
Strickland, Mr. and Mrs. Armie	22.50
Strickland, Dorothy	10.00
Stott, Jean W.	30.00
Stox, Susie E.	20.00
Taylor, Almeta	10.00
Taylor, Tharen R.	10.00
Tripp, Celia	30.00
Tyson, Mary J.	30.00
Ward, Chester	20.00
Ward, Mary	10.00
Webster, Alice	10.00
West, Estell	20.00
Williams, Frank	40.00
Williford, Mrs. Ralph	10.00
Willis, H. E.	30.00
Total	$2,517.50

PEE DEE ASSOCIATION

Beaverdam	$ 100.00
Cypress Creek	157.10
Emerson	290.98
Oak Grove	619.29
Total	$1,167.37

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

East Rockingham	$ 20.00
Holy Cross	25.00
House of Prayer	50.00
Total	$ 95.00

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Agape Mission	$ 100.00
Black Jack Grove	50.00
Calvary	79.40
Durham, First	100.00
Elwood Lane	30.00
Everett Chapel	670.00
Faith Mission (Durham)	410.00
Fellowship (Wilson)	25.00
First Union	165.00
Flood's Chapel	25.00
Free Spirit	65.00
Free Union	20.00
Fremont	305.00
Friendship	325.00
Kenly, First	317.01
Little Rock	230.00
Marsh Swamp	310.43
Memorial Chapel	20.00
Micro	13.08
Milbournie	75.00
Mount Zion (Wilson County)	20.00
Mount Zion (Nash County)	40.00
Oak Grove	303.25
People's Chapel	60.00
Pine Level	210.00
Pleasant Grove	50.50
Pleasant Hill	120.00
Pleasant Plain	135.00
Rock Springs	20.00
Rosebud	37.50
St. Mary's	275.00
Selma	50.00
Sherron Acres	150.00
Spring Hill	400.00
Stancil's Chapel	139.31
Stoney Creek	25.00
Stony Hill	30.00
Trinity	1,000.00
Union Chapel	66.78
Union Grove	370.00
Unity	150.00
Watson's Grove	25.00
Wilson, First	288.80
Total	$7,301.06

OTHERS

Cash Offering Mission Rally	$ 187.60
Cash Offering Deaf Camp Singing	160.00
North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary	136.87
Paul Palmer Association, Georgia	200.00
St. Cloud, Florida	30.00
Total	$ 714.47

GIFT FOR CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY

A gift of $1,000 has been made to Cragmont Assembly in memory of Mr. Hersel Lee Bowen Sr. by his wife, Mrs. Mildred Bowen, and children; J. C. Bowen, Hersel Lee Bowen Jr., Thomas Bowen and Mrs. Connie Lynn.

Mr. Bowen was a member of the Reedy Branch Church, Route 1, Winterville. Mr. Bowen died on Sunday, June 5, 1983.

In making the presentation to Cragmont Assembly, Mrs. Bowen stated that it was her family's desire that through this gift that many young people would answer the call to serve Christ through preaching, teaching, missionary work or service to Christ and His kingdom through some way.

Her pastor, the Rev. Willis Wilson, serves on the Cragmont Board.

NOTICES

The Third Union of the Eastern Conference will meet at Daly's Chapel Church, Seven Springs, North Carolina, October 29, 10 a.m.

The Examining Board of the Eastern Conference will meet October 17, at 10 a.m., at the Kinston Bible and Bookstore, Kinston. Anyone desiring to meet with this board should come at this time.

Francis Garner, *Secretary*

The Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation will meet Tuesday, October 18, at 11 a.m. in the Multipurpose Room at the facility.

Mrs. Ruth Taylor, *Secretary*

Sunday School Lesson

For October 16

THE MEANS: GOD'S SON

Lesson Text: Romans 3:21-26; 5:6-11; Colossians 1:13, 14
Memory Verse: Romans 5:6

I. INTRODUCTION

Know-how. This is a new word that has crept into our language in the last half-century. *Webster's International Dictionary* of 1909 did not list it—not even among the new words added in 1932.

Of course, the thing we call know-how is not new. Hundreds of years ago a farmer knew how to milk a cow, a carpenter knew how to build a cupboard, a housewife knew how to make a pie. But recent years have brought an explosion of knowledge. Some people know how to fly airplanes, program computers, rebuild faces. In the midst of new knowledge of how to do things, we have finally put together a new word to name that kind of knowledge. We call it *know-how.*

Still our know-how is far from complete. We are alarmed at the thought of running out of oil, but we don't know how to run an automobile economically without it. There is water enough in the ocean to irrigate our deserts, but we don't know how to get the salt out of it cheaply. We suppose tremendous power is locked in the rocks of earth, but we don't know how to use any of it, except a part of what is found in unstable elements like uranium. Worst of all, we don't know how to eradicate evil from our hearts and lives.

God's know-how is complete. He does know how to get rid of our sin and make us righteous. Not only so, but He is pleased to share His know-how with us.

"The whole world was lost in the darkness of sin." So says an old song, and the Bible confirms it: "There is none righteous, no, not one" (Romans 3:10). Another song makes it more frighteningly personal: "*I* was sinking deep in sin." That was our lesson two weeks ago. *I* was lost. *I* was on the way to Hell. No power or know-how of mine could save me.

But God was not content to let me be lost. That was last week's lesson: "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). We now come to consider the means of our salvation. It is brought about through God's Son.

We live in a world seething with hatred and fear. With agonizing regularity our newspapers tell of first one, and then another group that strikes out with violence to right some wrong, real or imagined. Hijacking, bombings, and the taking of hostages are methods used by groups or individuals to work out their hostilities.

The mass media bring this violence from halfway around the world right into our living rooms. We may escape the actual violence, but we cannot escape for long the relentless reporting of it. Nor do we ever completely escape the consequences of violent acts. Anyone who travels by air knows the inconveniences and delays that security checks cause. As violence mounts, these security regulations are certain to become more restrictive. And worse, there is a real, if quite small, danger that some alienated group might be able to gain atomic materials and bring wholesale devastation to some great population center.

All of this leaves us feeling helpless. What can we do about it? We know the cause—sin. Sin has alienated man from God and, as a result, from his fellowman also. Only in Christ is there a message of reconciliation. We must proclaim the message of hope as never before.

But before that message can even be heard, those who need it must have a willingness to listen. Through a kind deed, a word of encouragement, a smile, we can help open the heart of an alien to the gospel. The most eloquent speeches are the little deeds of daily kindness. Let your life be a life of reconciliation.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A. No matter how well we may understand how God saves us in Christ, that understanding will always be limited. Human understanding of such a great mystery can only go so far. Georgia Harkness brings this out well in her book, *Understanding the Christian Faith.* She says on page 78, "This question" (of how exactly Christ saves us) "is not easy to answer, for into the saving death of Christ are compressed the mystery and miracle of God's saving love. To grasp it fully we should need, as Paul said, to 'understand all mysteries,' and instead of trying to make it appear entirely reasonable we had better say gratefully as Paul did, 'Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift.' "

B. "You are accepted by that which is greater than you . . . . Simply accept the fact that you are accepted. When that happens to us, we experience grace, and reconciliation bridges the gulf of estrangement. After such an experience . . . everything is transformed"—Paul Tillich, in *The Shaking of Foundations,* page 162.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

What a joy will be ours when we stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ and we meet there even one who can say, "You gave Christ to me!"

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

Scripture Reading—Romans 6, 7

I MUST FIND PEACE

Dr. Walter Wilson, a great soul winner, was a manufacturer of tents before God called him into full-time gospel ministry. In his office he took care of minor injuries of employees. One day a woman came into his office. The needle of a machine had deeply pierced her finger. Dr. Wilson dressed the injured finger. Before she returned to her work, Dr. Wilson asked the superintendent to examine the safeguards on the machine. "There's nothing wrong with them," reported the superintendent. "I can't understand how the accident occurred."

Some days later, the same woman came to Dr. Wilson's office again, wringing her hand in pain. Dr. Wilson scolded her mildly for her carelessness. She burst into tears. "Oh, Dr. Wilson, for weeks I have been most miserable. I knew you were a very busy man. I deliberately injured my hand that I might have an excuse to talk to you. I'm not ready to die and I am so wretched I don't want to live unless I can find peace. I heard you could help me!"

Dr. Wilson had the joy of bringing her to the Saviour!

Help me to see the tragic plight
Of souls far off in sin,
Help me to love, to pray, and go,
And bring the wand'ring in.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

Scripture Reading—Romans 8

A DREAM TRANSFORMS MINISTER

There was a minister who neglected to deal personally with the unsaved. One night he had an awful dream. When he came to the breakfast table, his wife noticed that he looked very distressed. She asked: "Why are you distressed?" He replied: "I had an awful dream!" "Dreams don't mean anything," said the wife. "There was something to this one. I dreamed that I was standing before the Judgment Seat of Christ. He asked me, 'Where are the souls of the children I gave you?' I replied, 'I do not know, Lord.' 'Where are the souls of the servants who lived in your house?' Again I said, 'I do not know, Lord.' 'Where are the souls of the congregation to whom I sent you as a pastor?' With sorrow, I said, 'O Lord, I know not! I never spoke personally to them about their souls!' As I said these words, I seemed to sink into Hell where I was mocked by these lost souls. Then I awoke! Now, I am a changed minister!"

Count that day lost
Whose low, descending sun
Views from thy hand
No soul for Jesus won!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

Scripture Reading—Romans 9, 10

ONLY MAN IN AMERICA

An aged farmer visited his son, a popular senator in Washington, D.C. The farmer was a zealous Christian. When introduced to the ambassador from Belgium, he earnestly said: "Sir, are you a Christian?" His son was greatly embarrassed by this. Before the ambassador could reply the son changed the conversation. Shortly thereafter the father became ill and after a while he died. Hearing of his death, the ambassador sent flowers. A note attached to them brought tears to the eyes of the senator. The note read: "He was the *only man* in America who asked me if I was a Christian."

Lead me to some soul today,
Oh, teach me, Lord, just what to say;
Friends of mine are lost in sin,
And cannot find their way.
Few there are who seem to care,
And few there are who pray;
Melt my heart and fill my life,
Give me one soul today.

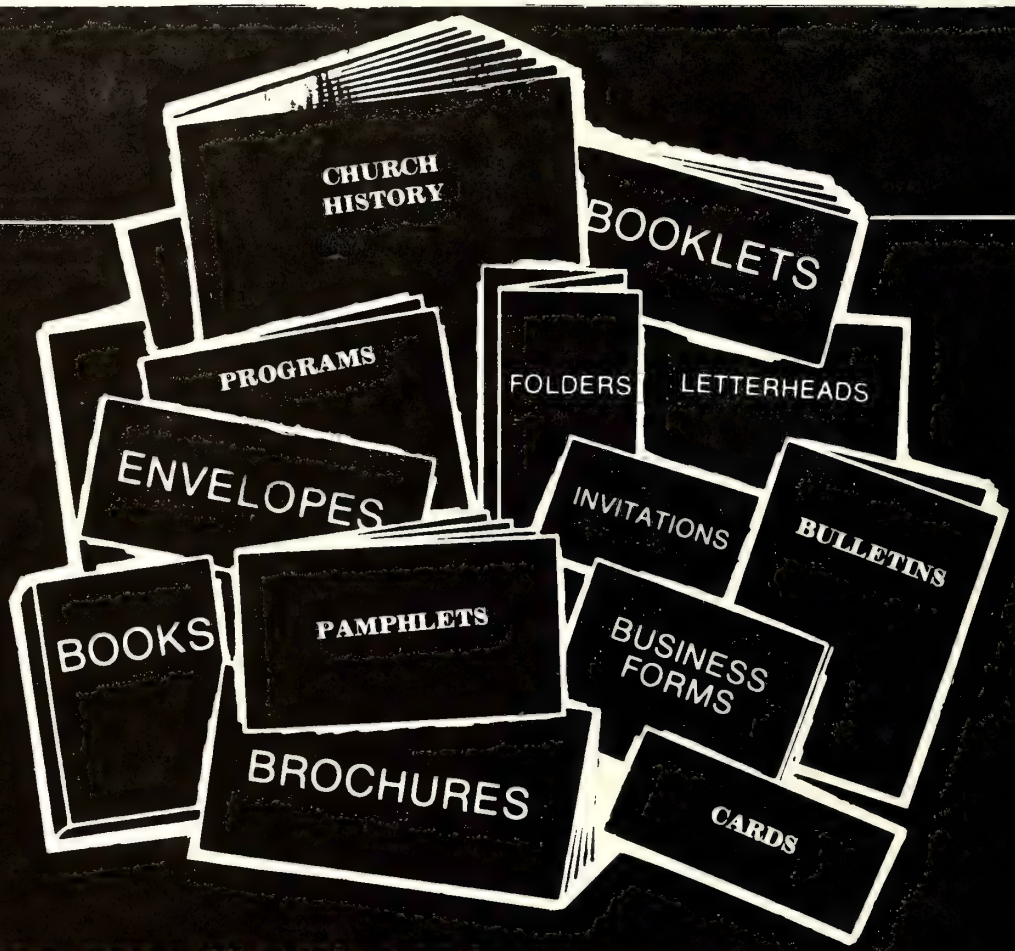
Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

LOOKING AT SHERRON ACRES CHURCH, DURHAM

(Excerpts from the diary of the late John D. Currie)

February 2, 1941—Morning Service

Services opened promptly with the pastor in charge. This being a communion service, the pastor preached a brief but wonderful sermon. Afterwards, the bread and wine were served in a very orderly manner. Later, in a very spiritual way, the feet washing service was exercised and about 85 of the 110 present took part in the communion service.



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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

Cover Photo by Janie Sowers

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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Editorial

The Tables Have Been Turned

He was a short, dark man. His speech was slow but quite well articulated. When the Rev. Mouachou Mouanoutoua stepped behind the pulpit at the 1983 State Convention Mission Rally, it was evident that his message was from God Almighty.

Mouachou related that while Christians were teaching him the ways of the Lord, they often did not do as they taught. He was taught to share his two shirts with others, but he looked around and saw Christians with much more than two shirts who were not willing to share. He was taught not to strive with others for positions and status, for he might lose sight of the Lord in the process; but those who taught him this did nothing but seek power. Mouachou was taught to look up and not down or around; he did look up. But when he looked around again, his land and people were gone. Mouachou was left alone. We teach that the just shall live by faith, but we fail to say that we must grow in that faith. Our aims, our goals, are noble, but somewhere, somehow, in the process, we have missed the mark.

We say we want to win the battle, to accomplish much for the cause of Christ. But we do not plan. We do not design programs—we merely start out and hope for the best. If we truly want to win the battle, we would accumulate our army, plan our strategies, and move forward to accomplish the task that lies ahead. Instead, we talk—and talk doesn't cost anything. Likewise, it doesn't usually yield much either.

Then I think . . .
Life hits me in the face with who's happy and who's sad . . .
I'm glad for the happy ones:
promotions, weddings, winning, making it big . . .
but there is such sadness,
so much that doesn't need to be . . .
shouldn't be . . .
it seems unfair, horrible!

I wonder why . . .
people starve in India,
nineteen-year-old boys kill each other in Lebanon,
fire destroys a whole family?
Why, with all the new cars, trips, lobster, steak, resources, knowledge and computers around,
is there never enough money to give children
a decent education, or the poor a decent living standard, or
the gospel to those dying and on their way to an eternal Hell?

I wonder what's wrong.
Can't the Lord do anything?

You mean . . . He expects ME
to do something?
Oh . . .

Yes, if we want to win the world, it will take more than just dreaming dreams. We can do it. We have been called and

(Continued on Page 18)

CONVENTION PROVES TO BE CHALLENGING

The Seventy-first Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists began on Wednesday morning, September 14. Attendance was good and a spirit of harmony seemed to predominate. The Rev. Gary Bailey, pastor of Stoney Creek Church, presided over the meeting in a very able manner, maintaining a smooth session.

Before the annual session ever assembled for business, many Original Free Will Baptists had assembled in Clayton at Everett Chapel Church for the Night of Evangelism service. Dr. Robert Shank, author of several theological works, delivered the sermon for that meeting. His topic was "Life in the Son." A mass choir composed of singers from churches across the state sang beautifully under the direction of Mr. Mott Batchelor. Special music was also provided by the Free Will Baptist Choral Society; Mrs. Carolyn Knox led this group.

Annual reports from denominational enterprises, institutions and bodies were given on both days of the Convention. Dr. Shank addressed the Convention again on Wednesday. He dealt with our great assignment from God, an assignment that reaches until—. Dr. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, delivered the morning message on Thursday. His sermon challenged ministers and laymen alike to take their commitments and calls seriously.

The Mission Rally was held on Wednesday night. The Home Missions Board was in charge

(Turn the Page)

of this year's rally. A mass choir composed of home mission singers provided special music, as did Mr. Mott Batchelor. The Rev. Bob Harber, field missionary to the H'mong tribe in California, introduced Wa Lo Lee, president of the H'mong Church, and Mouachou Mouanoutoua, vice president. Mr. Mouanoutoua then delivered the evening sermon, one which related mission work as it really is.

A SUMMARY OF VARIOUS REPORTS

Home Missions and Church Extension Department Report: Last year, the Home Missions Board responded to the requests of many of our people and put some mission pastors on full-time salaries. The Department's funds have been low on occasion, but the denomination has always rallied and met the challenge.

Two missions have been organized into churches since the last setting of the Convention (as of Convention time): Heritage of Charlotte and Haymount of Fayetteville. The newly established work with the H'mongs in California is showing great results.

The Home Missions Department asked for a budget of $150,000. The Department received $103,618.67 in contributions last year.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation Report: Mr. R. Clifford Gray, the new Executive Director of the Foundation, extended greetings to the Convention. He related that during the past year the institution had seen a 3% increase in overall sales and a 5% decrease in overall expenses, as compared to the previous year. This is a very positive sign.

The Board of Superannuation Report: This past year has been one of much change in the Superannuation work. The Ministers' Retirement System has been revised and restated giving us a program competitive with any plan in the private or public sector. The life insurance program was placed with Northwestern Mutual Life, a company consistently ranked among the top in the insurance industry. Perhaps the most notable event is that after 25 years at the helm of Superannuation, the Rev. Walter Reynolds resigned and the Rev. Don Fader assumed the position of director. Mr. Fader began his work in this capacity on July 1, 1983.

The Board recommended to the Convention that Father's Day be designated as Superannuation Day in local churches and that the entire month of October be designated as Superannuation Month. It was also recommended that the Convention adopt a budget of $2 per member for the coming year for the support of Superannuation programs and that each church provide a portion of its budget to support ministers in planning for retirement.

Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes Report: During the spring of 1983, the Board voted to increase the cost of residency from 25% to 30% of the resident's monthly or annual income. This action was explained to the retirees and they in turn gave their favor; this action went into effect July 15, 1983.

Plans for the construction of new apartments on the Home property have been completed by Moore's Drafting Service in Goldsboro. These plans have been approved by the proper state and county officials and have been submitted with two contractors for bids on landscape work and the building of six new apartments.

The Board is also considering the possibility of establishing residences in the community where the retired person lives. This is an effort to keep the retiree in his or her community church and family, and at the same time let him or her be a member of our Free Will Baptist Retirement family.

The Board recommended the following to the Convention: That January be Retirement Homes Month; that member churches of the State Convention continue their gift support through their budgets or by the free will offering system; and that Sunday, January 28, 1984, be designated as Retirement Homes Sunday in all Convention churches.

Foreign Missions Board Report: The 1982-83 church year was a great one for Foreign Missions. Progress was made and souls were saved on each field. This was a year of planning and decision making that will have a great bearing on the future of this ministry.

The Rev. Antonio Escobar was appointed as Field Director for the work in Mexico. The Board has given the go-ahead to construct a Bible school in Piedras, Mexico, from funds received from the sale of the property it owned in Quemado, Texas. Approximately $30,000 of this will be used to construct the Bible school and to purchase a truck for the Mexican Field Director. The remainder of these funds will go toward a Bible school in India. (This school was to be built after the Willem van der Plas family arrived in India, but at this time, their visas have been denied by the Indian government. No reason was given for the denial.)

A new building to house a printing operation has been approved for construction in the Philippines. This press operation will produce textbooks for the Bible school, and literature for the churches and Sunday school; it will also print tracts for distribution. The Baker family has gone back to the Philippines after a one-year furlough; and the Barnard family has moved to Manila to attend language school. A call has been given for another couple to join this work by January 1, 1984.

The Foreign Missions Board is at a crucial point in its history. For the third straight year, it has finished the year in the red. If this trend continues, we will be forced to cut back on our already small program. To aid in the remedy of this problem, the Board has planned to increase its financial base through the "Compassion Bank" program of giving. A media presentation has been developed for this program and the Director of the department is eager to present it to churches. The Convention's response will determine the future and resources of our missionary program.

The Board requested that the Convention approve a budget of $290,499.97 for the coming year, 1983-84; that the Convention encourage every member to be a faithful Foreign Missions prayer partner; and that the months of December and March continue to be designated as Foreign Missions Months (and that churches remember the work of the late J. E. Timmons through the Memorial Christmas Fund).

Mount Olive College Report: It was thirty years ago at Marsh Swamp Church in Wilson County that the North Carolina State Convention voted to purchase an old public school building for the location of Mount Olive College. At the present time, the College is a two-year fully accredited college with a sincere and firm commitment to academic excellence and to the Christian faith. In addition to providing educational opportunities for Free Will Baptists who wish to work toward college degrees,

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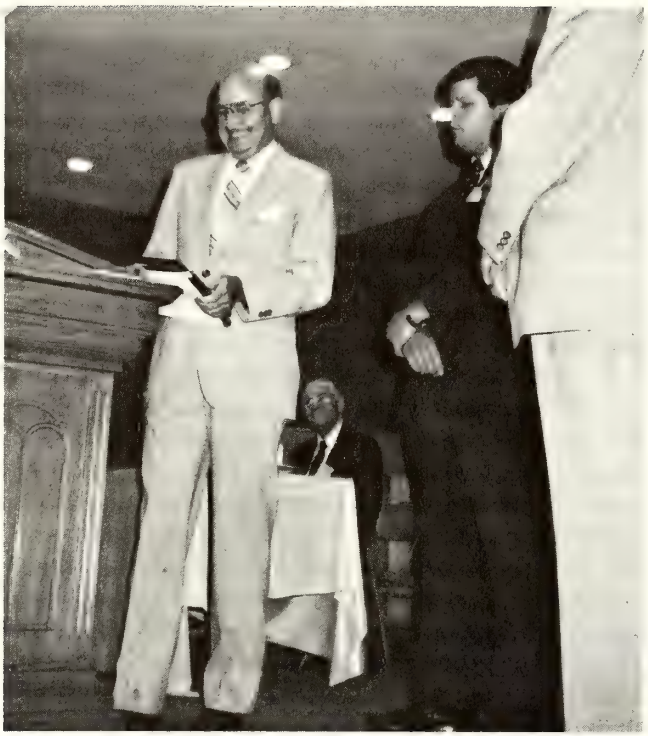


Mount Olive offers a broad range of services to the church.

The commitment the College has made to becoming a four-year institution is a courageous and ambitious step, probably one of the most daring ever made by Original Free Will Baptists. In order that they might successfully fulfill this commitment, the College recommended the following to the Convention: That the Convention re-affirm its commitment to help provide the leadership and financial resources required to make Mount Olive College a fully accredited senior college with the addition of the junior year in 1984 and the senior year in 1985.

That the Convention re-affirm its approval of the gift support goal of $7,500,000 contained in the "Bridge to the Future" program for the purpose of preparing the College to become a four-year institution. In adopting this recommendation, the Convention is aware that it is approving a five-year (1979-84) goal of $3,750,000 in gift support by Free Will Baptists which is equivalent to approximately $20 per member annually, and also that the Convention is asking the College to seek an equal amount of volunteer support from other private sources.

That the Convention give strong encouragement to individuals and to all affiliated churches to make special gifts and/or pledges to assure the complete underwriting of the cost of College Hall.

That the Convention accept the invitation from the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees to make College Hall the home for its annual and called sessions, beginning in 1984, unless otherwise voted by the Convention;

That the Convention continue to designate February and July as "Christian Education Months for Mount Olive College" and recommend that our churches and Sunday schools observe Fifth Sundays as "Mount Olive College Scholarship Day."

That this Convention pledge its prayers for the Board of Trustees, Administration and Faculty for God's guidance in the total affairs of Mount Olive College.

Free Will Baptist Children's Home Report: The Children's Home is a missionary organization created to perform the Great Commission by ministering to orphaned, dependent, neglected and abused, undisciplined and status offender children. During the past year the Home has served a total of 45 children. The children have enjoyed a very fulfilling activity and recreational schedule on and off the campus. An Educational Center has also been made available for their use on the site. The total program of the Home has been clarified and a program for the preparation of independent living has been implemented.

The Home signed the Civil Rights Compliance Act of 1964, for the second time, December 16, 1982. There was some hesitation to signing prior to the Convention approval, but the Board felt that there was really no choice. By signing immediately the Board would have time to evaluate exactly what would be required of the Home so that it could report more accurately to the Convention during this seating.

The Children's Home Board recommended that May and November continue to be designated as Children's Home months and that a Sunday in each month be Children's Home Day in Convention member churches; that the Convention accept a challenge for the fiscal year 1983-84 of a 15% increase in contributions from each church and $200 for those churches that did not give anything during the past fiscal year. The Board also asked that the Convention endorse the Home's decision to sign the Civil Rights Compliance Act of 1964.

Cragmont Assembly Report: The 1983 conferences were well attended and staffed. As the summer conferences have come to a close, the camp is now hosting fall retreat groups.

Since the last Convention, a good deal of work was done on the motel. The bathroom walls were painted and carpeting was added; the ceilings were also repaired. The new softball field has been an added recreational plus. The State Youth Convention raised money for the construction of this field.

At the time of the Convention, about $20,000 toward this year's payment of $40,000 had been raised. The urgency of this situation was emphasized.

Church Finance Association, Inc. Report: Now in its 43rd year, the Church Finance Association is a non-profit membership corporation owned by churches, institutions, conferences and individual Free Will Baptists. Its purpose is to assist Free Will Baptists in the financing of construction, remodeling, and other such projects. Loans for this cause are made available through the investment of God's people who are willing to promote the cause of the Lord through Original Free Will Baptist Churches.

It was noted that Free Will Baptists could help the Association through their prayers and by purchasing memberships into the Association.

Churches who wish to apply for loans should write for information to this address: Church Finance Association, Inc., Box 38, Ayden, NC 28513.

The Obituary Committee Report: The Committee memorialized five ministers and two lay leaders who have passed away since the last Convention. They were the Revs. Taylor Hill, J. Walter Stanley, L. L. Therrell, H. M. Minchew, and Eric Gaskill, Mr. C. K. McCotter and Mr. Sam Bundy.

The Resolutions Committee Report: The following resolutions were adopted by the Convention:

1. WHEREAS, Free Will Baptists believe the Scriptures "are a sufficient and infallibly true rule and guide to salvation and all Christian worship and service," and

WHEREAS, we have adopted *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* as our official doctrinal statement, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that any resolution introduced in this or any future session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists that is inconsistent with Scripture and/or *The Articles of Faith* be declared out of order.

2. WHEREAS, Free Will Baptists believe all people are free, moral, responsible agents, and

WHEREAS, many controversial issues are really matters of individual choice, and

WHEREAS, some of these issues can be divisive rather than unifying, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that any resolution introduced to this or any future session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists that proposes to speak for all Original Free Will Baptists be passed by at least a three-fourths majority.

3. WHEREAS, the ordaining councils/examining boards are charged with the responsibility of examining and ordaining ministers, and

WHEREAS, these ministers when ordained are often called to pastor outside the conference in which they were ordained, and

WHEREAS, some conferences have different rules and regulations concerning ministers pastoring in their conferences, and

WHEREAS, these differences have caused and will continue to cause confusion in our churches and conferences,

BE IT RESOLVED, that this setting of the State Convention appoint a committee consisting of three (3) board members from each of the conference ordaining councils to study how we may best bring some uniformity to the ordaining exam and procedures of each conference.

4. WHEREAS, Dr. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, brought the morning message during the Thursday morning session of this Convention, and

WHEREAS, the message delivered spoke to many areas of importance within our churches and within the ranks of our ministers,

BE IT RESOLVED, that this Convention direct the Executive Committee, with Dr. Raper's permission, to print this message in *The Free Will Baptist* as soon as possible, and to send a copy of the message to every ordained minister and licensed minister of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination.

5. WHEREAS, the membership and pastor of Everett Chapel Church have been most gracious in hosting this Seventy-first Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

BE IT RESOLVED, that we give them a rising vote of thanks.

6. WHEREAS, the Executive Committee and other persons in leadership positions have served faithfully in planning and carrying out this Convention,

BE IT RESOLVED, that this Convention give them a rising vote of appreciation.

The Nominating Committee Report: The following were elected at the Convention:

Children's Home: Eddie Edwards, (87); Foy Futrelle, (87); Iris Powell, (87); Mickey Newton, (86).

Foreign Missions: Henry Armstrong, (88).

Home Missions: Ray Wells, (88).

Superannuation: A Graham Lane, (88).

Commission of Free Will Baptist Student Fellowships: Harry Grubbs.

Mount Olive College: Mrs. Frank Walston, (89); W. P. Kemp Sr., (89); Johnny Hines, (89); Ray Williamson, (89); Gerald Anderson, (89); William J. Godwin, (87).

Retirement Homes Board: Lloyd Jones Jr. (88); Mrs. Peyton Lee, (88).

Historical Commission: Frank R. Harrison, (86).

Scouting Commission: Rod Dew, (86); Nathan Hinkle, (86).

Chaplain's Commission: Adrian Grubbs, (88).

Cragmont Assembly Stock Representative: Rick Watson, (86).

Board of Trustees: Lloyd Jones Jr. (86).

Church Finance Association Representative: Graham Creech.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation Representative: Elwood Hill, (84).

Layman's League Board: Rex Wainwright, (86); Fred Boykin, (86); Dallas Foreman, (86); Tommy Benson, (86); Leon J. Hudson, (84); James Sutton, (84).

Revival Services to Be Held At Holly Springs Church

Revival services will be held at Holly Springs Church, Route 4, Kenly, October 23-27. The prayer room will open at 7:15 with services following at 7:30 p.m. There will be special music each night. The Rev. Henry Armstrong, pastor of Pleasant Hill Church, will be bringing the message each evening.

The pastor, the Rev. W. Royster Martin, and the church invite everyone to attend.

Faith Church to Have Homecoming Day

Faith Church of Leland, North Carolina, will observe homecoming on October 23, 1983. There will be Sunday school at 10 a.m. and morning worship at 11 a.m. Dinner will be served on the church grounds at noon. There will be special services afterwards.

Pleasant Hill Church Has Homecoming and Will Have Revival

Pleasant Hill Church, Route 2, Pikeville, observed its annual homecoming on October 16. The pastor, the Rev. Henry Armstrong, brought the message. There was a gospel sing in the afternoon.

The church will be having its fall revival the week of November 7, at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend the revival services. The Rev. Robert May will be the guest evangelist.

Revival Now in Progress At Black Jack Church

Revival services are in progress through the week at Black Jack Church, Route 3, Greenville. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Earl Glenn, pastor of Daniels Chapel Church near Wilson, is the guest evangelist. The public is cordially invited to attend. There will be special singing each night. A nursery is provided.

Sunday School Convention To Meet

The Executive Committee of the State Sunday School Convention announces that the convention for 1984 will be held on March 24.

Homecoming Day to Be Observed at Dilda's Grove Church

Homecoming day at Dilda's Grove Church near Fountain will be observed on Sunday, October 23. The services for the day will include Sunday school at 10 a.m. and worship services at 11 a.m. The pastor, the Rev. Clifford Ball, will bring the homecoming message.

Following these services, lunch will be served in the fellowship building. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend.

Free Spirit Church To Have Homecoming

Free Spirit Church, Route 5, Wilson, announces that on October 30, that they will be having their annual homecoming with their pastor, Wayne Whitley, bringing a special morning message. Dinner will be served on the grounds following the morning services.

A very special singing will be brought by the Jerusalem Way singers of New Jerusalem Church of Kenly. The time of the services is 2 p.m.

All past members and especially those people who helped build the church from a mission to a church are invited to attend. A special invitation goes to the man and his wife who put their home up to purchase the very first mobile home unit—the Rev. and Mrs. Dale Albertson. Others that are extended a special invitation are the Rev. and Mrs. Dean Kennedy; the Rev. and Mrs. Ronnie Mohn (Mrs. Mohn served as the first pianist and Mr. Mohn was the first choir director); Mr. and Mrs. Carl Brock; and Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Pittman.

Upcoming Events at Sandy Plain Church

There will be a singing on Sunday evening, October 30, at Sandy Plain Church, Route 2, Pink Hill. The time of the services is 7 p.m. The featured singers will be the Limestone Singers of Potter's Hill, North Carolina.

Revival services will be held October 31—November 4. The Rev. Keith Cobb of the Carolina Bible Institute will be the evangelist. There will be special singing each evening. A nursery will be provided. The Rev. Ransom McAbee and the church congregation invite everyone to come and share in these special events.

News from Sidney Church

Sidney Church, Route 2, Belhaven, is still reaping the harvest of a glorious week of revival and homecoming events that took place the week of September 18-25.

Sidney's own Gary W. Smith, began the week by bringing a special message on the Second Coming of Christ, during the Sunday evening service. Gary brought insight to biblical prophecy and how today's current events are fashioning the stage for Christ's triumphant return.

September 19-23 gave the people at Sidney five full nights of evangelistic proclamations rendered from the Holy Spirit through the Rev. Bobby Brown of neighboring Shiloh Church. He stirred hearts as he boldly proclaimed God's glory. Many friends and neighbors from surrounding churches attended this community revival bringing with them gifts in song, testimony, and prayer.

Then on Sunday, September 25, the gates of Heaven opened wide and God truly blessed. Homecoming day was one of those autumn days that the Lord smiled upon. The Rev. John Vernelson, former pastor of Sidney, brought forth the morning message to an audience representing many memories.

A bountiful harvest of foods was provided for the traditional dinner on the grounds as friends feasted on the sweet spirit that prevailed.

Following the meal, a singspiration concluded the eventful week as Sidney's choir sang several selections along with music by featured guests.

The members of Sidney wish to extend a heartfelt thanks to all their friends for making this week one that will live on for many weeks to come. But most of all they thank their Heavenly Father for ". . . filling our hearts with His love, and letting each soul be rekindled with fire from above!"

The Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Martin Honored

The Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Martin

The Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Martin were honored during homecoming services Sunday, October 2, for thirty years of service at Smyrna Church.

Mr. Martin preached his first sermon at the church, located in the Meadow community, on the third Sunday of September in 1953, and was called two weeks later as pastor of the church which was only a few years old. He served the church for 16 years on a half-time basis and also pastored Yelverton Grove Church near Smithfield. For the past 15 years he has been full-time pastor of Smyrna.

He was ordained October 27, 1952, and is a charter member of Stevens Chapel Church located on Route 1, Benson, near his home.

Mr. Martin's subject for the sermon marking his 30 years was "Journey of Faith."

A special song service was held in the afternoon and was dedicated to the Rev. and Mrs. Martin. Those participating were the Smyrna Choir, Stone's Creek Choir, Youth of the New Zealand Church, Debbie and Johnny Davenport, from Yelverton Grove Church, the Whitman Family Singers, Mr. Delma Altman and Carolyn and Donald Stewart from New Zealand.

Mrs. Martin is the former Annie Beasley. The Martins have one son, Edward of Raleigh, and four daughters, Eula Mae He-leo Fornell, an English instructor in Sao Paulo, Brazil, South America; Ann Lowery of Raleigh; Cynthia Benson and Sandra Worley of Route 1, Benson.

Revival and Homecoming At Unity Church

Revival services will begin Monday, October 24, and will continue through October 28, at Unity Church, Wilson. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Wayne King, pastor of Westside Church, will be the evangelist.

On Sunday, following the revival, October 30, homecoming will be observed. Following the morning service, dinner will be served and beginning at 1:30 a singspiration will begin featuring the Watchmen Quartet. The pastor, the Rev. Joe Ingram, and the congregation invite everyone to attend these services.

Revival Services to Be Held At Ormondsville Church

Revival services will begin on Sunday night, October 23, and continue through Thursday night, October 27, at Ormondsville Church, Ormondsville, with the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood as guest evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Special music will be featured each service. The pastor, the Rev. Jack Mayo, and the congregation extend a cordial invitation to everyone.

Cape Fear Women to Have Study Course

The Cape Fear District Women will have a study course on Monday, November 14, at 7:30 p.m., at Yelverton Grove Church, Route 3, Smithfield. The topic will be "The Lord's Prayer." The speaker will be Rudene Kennedy of Pink Hill, North Carolina. The study course co-chairmen are Mavie Daughtry and Shirley Sellers. All churches are invited to attend.

Upcoming Events at Edgewood Church

Revival services will begin Wednesday night, October 19, and will continue through October 21, at Edgewood Church near Crisp. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Ray Williamson will be the guest evangelist. There will be special music each night. Everyone is cordially invited to attend these services.

Revival in Progress at Rock Springs Church

Revival services are in progress through October 21, at Rock Springs Church, located one mile west of Bailey on Highway 264. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev.

(Turn the Page)

Henry Armstrong Jr., pastor of Pleasant Hill Church near Pikeville, will be the guest evangelist. There will be special music each night. The pastor, the Rev. Billy R. Nowell, and the Rock Springs members extend a very warm welcome to everyone to attend these services.

Upcoming Events at Wooten's Chapel Church

Homecoming will be observed at Wooten's Chapel Church near Garner on October 23, 1983.

Revival services will be held at the church, October 24-28, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Chris Markuson, pastor of the church, will be the evangelist. A nursery will be provided. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Fourth Central Union Meeting to Be Held

The Fourth Central Union Meeting will be held at Peace Church near Pinetops on October 30, 1983. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

10:00—Sunday School
11:00—Hymn, "Standing On the Promises"
—Welcome, Sue Webb
—Response, the Rev. L. B. Manning
11:15—President's Remarks
—Greetings from the Children's Home
—Mount Olive College Report
—Mission Report
11:30—Special Music, La Grange
—Sermon, Unavailable at Press Time

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:30—Hymn, "When We All Get to Heaven"
—Devotion, the Rev. Clifford Ball
—Committee Reports
—Program, Local Church
2:15—Adjournment

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

Grace Harger and Arline Ban have combined their knowledge and experience in Christian education with children to write *Teaching and Learning with Young Children: A Manual for Workers in the Church.* It was published by Judson Press, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, in 1979. It is paperback and costs only $2.50. It is part of a series of books on teaching and learning with children in the church school. The other books in the series are *Teaching and Learning with Early Elementary Children* (Grades 1, 2) and *Teaching and Learning with Older Elementary Children* (Grades 3-6).

Teaching and Learning with Young Children is an introduction to Christian education with children from three through five years old. It is written for the beginning teacher or even the teacher who has taught for many years. Chapter One explores the characteristics, needs, and resources of threes, fours, and fives, and how they grow in the Christian faith. Chapter Two looks at how teachers can help them grow and learn through playing, grouping, using the Bible and through worship. Chapter Three examines how the teacher can organize for learning, establish routines, and use music and art for teaching. Chapter Four explores the facilities needed for Christian education with young children. Chapter Five examines the purpose and goal of Christian education with young children. Chapter Six sets forth in more detail how children learn in the church, grow in the Christian faith, and how to teach children with handicaps. Chapter Seven looks at the role of the teacher, team teaching or teaching alone, relating to the parents of the children, and growing as a teacher. Chapter Eight explores the need for good planning, steps in planning a session, selecting, adapting, and using resources. The book has a list of other helpful resources for the teacher of young children. An index for quick reference is also included.

All of the books in this series are practical and informative. I highly recommend this series to any person concerned about and involved in Christian education with children. These books can be ordered through our bookstores.

RETIREMENT HOMES

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
September, 1983
Total $1,274.34

ALBEMARLE	
Mount Zion	$ 73.89
St. Paul	10.00
Total	$ 83.89
CENTRAL	
Aspen Grove	$ 50.00
Bethany	25.00
Daniels Chapel	50.00
Edgewood	5.00
Gum Swamp	50.00
Hugo	25.00
Saratoga	80.40
Tarboro, First	125.00
Total	$410.40
EASTERN	
Arapahoe	$150.00
Dublin Grove	15.00
Friendship	25.00
Oriental	5.00
Smith's New Home	30.00
Total	$225.00
PEE DEE	
Oak Grove	$ 40.05
Total	$ 40.05
WESTERN	
Fellowship	$ 25.00
Fremont	150.00
Rosebud	50.00
Sherron Acres	25.00
Spring Hill	125.00
St. Mary's	100.00
Union Number 2	35.00
Total	$510.00
STATEWIDE	
First, St. Cloud, Florida	$ 5.00
Total	$ 5.00

NOTICE

The Executive Committee of the State Sunday School Convention is now taking applications for a part-time field secretary. All applications must be in by December 1, 1983. Send them to Chris Singleton, P.O. Box 162, Beulaville, North Carolina 28518.

Chris Singleton

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

Harold Jones

Last week in *The Free Will Baptist,* I shared with you some remarks made at the State Convention and also explained that the State Convention approved a budget of $290,499.47 for Foreign Missions. It is important that this budget be met. Thus far for this new church year, we are not receiving sufficient funds to meet expenses. We have already used $10,000 from our reserve. We only have $10,000 left in this account. I want to encourage you to pray about this matter. I believe God is more than able to meet the needs of this program, but the question is are we willing to be God's vessels to do this?

Please take note of your past giving to Foreign Missions. I believe this is imperative for you to be able to increase your giving. The reason I ask this is because in the 1982-83 church year 137 churches, auxiliaries, Sunday schools, etc. increased their support for Foreign Missions, while 111 churches, auxiliaries, Sunday schools, etc. decreased their support. The decrease offset the increase, and resulted in Foreign Missions ending the year in the red. This is like trying to go forward and backward at the same time, and winding up going nowhere. Seriously, your help is needed on a regular basis. Let's prove that reaching the lost around the world is our chief business.

We have an exciting way to aid each church in increasing their giving to Foreign Missions called "Compassion Bank" giving. We have a media-sound presentation prepared that explains this concept of giving. Please give me an opportunity to visit your church and share this with you. Write or call Harold Jones, P.O. Box 38, Ayden, North Carolina 28513, phone, 746-4963.

WHAT IS THE TASK OF FOREIGN MISSIONS?

The Board of Foreign Missions of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina has been charged by the churches (every church is a part of this charge) with the task of reaching the people of our earth outside the United States with the gospel. This means 94% of the world's population. Let's be realistic, however, and praise the Lord for other evangelical groups who are also engaged in this task, but this does not relieve us of responsibility. We must accept the task as if it were ours alone and be diligent about the Father's business.

The Board of Foreign Missions is responsible for (1) equipping, sending and sustaining missionaries on the field. (2) It is responsible for preaching the gospel. (3) Establish churches for the converts and nurture them to maturity. (This also includes building construction.) (4) Establish, build and maintain Bible schools to train pastors and teachers in each country. This is necessary for growth. (5) Prepare our own literature on all levels. (6) Operate Christian elementary schools where necessary. (7) Administer relief to the sick, poor and homeless. (8) Equip and maintain an office in each country. (9) Develop any other ministry that is necessary to get the job done. (10) Operate a home office for administration, publicity and promotion. This Board is attempting to do all of this on a fraction of what it costs to do all these things in our own land.

Friends, it is becoming increasingly more difficult, if not impossible, to maintain a progressive program with such limited funds. Every Free Will Baptist must understand the awesome responsibility that has been placed on this Board, and back it according to the magnitude of the responsibility it has been given.

URGENT PRAYER REQUEST

The Board received word from the Indian Embassy on October 3, that the visa for the van der Plas family to enter India has been rejected. We immediately sent this information to Dr. Lall along with the applications of the van der Plas family to see if there is anything he can do. Please pray that Dr. Lall will be able to contact the right people for approval. We will inform you as soon as we hear from him.

NOTE OF THANKS

I wish to express my deep appreciation to all the wonderful people who supported my wife and me with their prayers, visits, cards and phone calls during my recent stay in the hospital.

I did suffer two heart attacks within five days. I am now convalescing at home. In the near future I will be going back to the hospital for further treatment.

We ask your continued prayers.

Thanks and God bless you.

The Rev. Eldon Brock

REPORT OF H'MONG WORK

The Rev. Bob Harber met me at the Los Angeles Airport at 12:30 on August 26. At 7 that evening we were involved in a leadership training program for the youth at Brother Harber's home. We finally got to eat the evening meal about 11 p.m. This made for a very long day since my day was three hours longer than theirs due to the time change. I awakened the next day at 3 a.m. my usual time to get up, 6 a.m. North Carolina time.

August 20th was a very unusual day in that I attended a baby naming at Santa Ana. The H'mongs make a very special event of the naming of a baby. They invite their friends and family to their home and, of course, they serve lots of food. They have Bible reading and a prayer of dedication for the baby. The paternal grandfather has the privilege of naming the baby.

After attending Sunday school, I brought the morning message at the Santa Anna General Baptist Church. The Rev. Gene Coker was a very gracious host. After the morning worship service, Brother Harber spoke to the H'mong youth while Brother Seth Harrelson and wife treated me to lunch. We returned to the church at 2 p.m. for an installation service for Brother Harber. Craig Shull brought the message and I gave the charge. The Rev. Monachou Moea translated for us. At the close of the service, the Rev. Wa Lo Lee conducted a communion service.

During the week I was privileged to attend the annual convention of the Lao Evangelical Church. It was very difficult for me to sit through an entire convention and not understand what was taking place. Occasionally they would ask my advice on a certain matter. They worked through such things as the marriage ceremony in their handbook.

Each night, Brother Harber preached in an evangelistic service and many people came forward for prayer. After the service we had a question and answer session. The people asked questions about the Bible, American customs, General Baptists and Free Will Baptists, and Christian conduct.

Each day, I conducted a one-hour seminar on church planting and Christian social issues. Most nights, we had to call a halt to the questions in order to get needed sleep.

The young people were extremely receptive to the gospel. It was a thrilling experience to see so many people hungering for knowledge of God's Word and the working of His Church.

On Sunday, I traveled to Fresno for the worship services. Brother Harber remained in Merced for the services there. When I arrived in Fresno at 12:30 noon, I found a large group of teenagers gathered to hear me preach. Upon presenting Jesus as the Son of God who died and rose for eternity, 21 teenagers came forward for counseling to accept Christ. At 1:30, I preached to the adults while the teenagers were teaching the children in Sunday school. After talking to them of God's love and Christ's death and Resurrection, 30 adults came forward to receive Christ. The thrill of seeing 51 people accept Christ in one day was almost more than I could take. That afternoon, my dear friend-to-be Lee and I visited many H'mong people in Fresno. I learned there were 18,000 H'mongs living in Fresno. Late that night, I arrived back at Brother Harber's home to hear that he had experienced a very similar day. He reported that a shaman (witch doctor) had come forward for prayer.

About midnight Labor Day, I arrived home to tell Louise about my experiences. Needless to say, we slept very little that night. Since then I have been so excited about the potential of our mission program among the H'mongs. I am afraid I have made a nuisance of myself telling all who will listen.

I foresee the possibility of seeing thousands of these wonderful, loving people come to Christ. The time is right, their hearts are open to receive the gospel. God has given us an open door. Brother Harber and the three H'mong pastors have a great task before them. We must do more!

Charles W. Crisp
Home Missions Director

COMING EVENTS

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October 19, 20—Eastern Conference, First Free Will Baptist Mission, Wilmington

October 30—Mount Olive College Day in Local Churches

October 30—Central District Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention, First Church, Tarboro

November—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Children's Home Month

November 1—Retirement Homes Board of Directors meet in Memorial Chapel Church, Middlesex

November 2—Church Finance Board of Directors Meeting, Headquarters Building, Ayden

November 3—Cape Fear Conference, Robert's Grove Church near Dunn

November 8—Board of Superannuation Meeting, Headquarters Building, Ayden

CHILDREN'S HOME BOARD MEETS

At an organizational meeting of the board of directors of the Children's Home on September 29, the oncoming members were welcomed and the outgoing members were given tokens of appreciation.

Pictured above are the three newest members of the board. The Rev. Foy Futrell represents the Cape Fear Conference, Mrs. Iris Powell represents the Eastern Conference and Mickey Newton is the alumni representative. We are happy to welcome these new members to the board.

The outgoing members were presented with "Certificates of Appreciation" for their service to the Children's Home. Pictured above is the President of the Board, the Rev. James B. Hardee, presenting a certificate to outgoing member, Mr. Johnny Woodall of the Cape Fear Conference. Outgoing members not present were the Rev. Walter J. Sutton of the Eastern Conference, and Mr. Charles Harrell, alumni representative member. Their certificates were mailed to them. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing members for their years of service to this ministry.

CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH

November is Children's Home Month. During this Thanksgiving season we will not have a Thanksgiving service on campus. We are asking each church to set a Sunday during the month as Children's Home Day, as best fits your schedule and will be most convenient for your congregation. We have promotional items that we want to send to you upon request. These are special offering folders, bulletins and bulletin inserts; and we will be happy to supply you with other information about the Home.

During this special time we ask that in your special service you join with us in prayer, praising God for His many blessings. Thank you for taking an active part in providing a quality child care ministry.

WHAT IS FOSTER CARE?

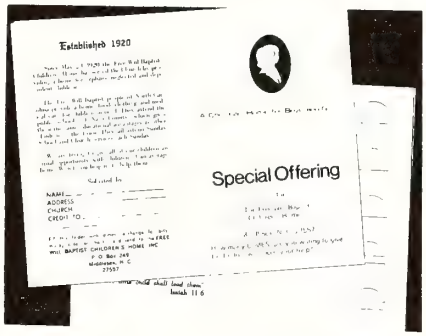
Foster care is substitute care for a child who is not able to live at home with his biological parents because of reasons such as: (1) parents' inability to provide proper care, control and supervision; (2) physical or mental illness of parents; (3) child's emotional problems and unacceptable behavior; (4) abandonment; (5) abuse or neglect. In theory, foster care is intended to be a temporary condition until the natural parents can provide adequate homes and living conditions for their child to return home to live. Unfortunately, this has not been the case for some children. Many children remain in "limbo" and drift from one foster home to another and remain institutionalized for many years.

A foster home is a family whose relationship is sound and who can share their home with an unrelated child and make them feel a part of a family group. The home is a private home which serves as an extension of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc. total child care ministry.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the foster care program you should contact the foster home social worker at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc. office. An inquiry, followed by a period of orientation to the agency and to the many aspects of foster parenting, licensing requirements and the placement of a child in the home. The foster home license is renewed annually. Each foster home will have a social worker to help assist them in meeting the emotional, physical, social, educational, and spiritual needs of the child and the foster family. Call or write Susan Dalton, Foster Care Social Worker, if you would like more information about foster care.

Susan Dalton
Social Worker

SPECIAL ENVELOPES



Pictured above are Special Offering coin envelopes for use by Free Will Baptist Churches as a promotional item in collecting special offerings for the Children's Home. These envelopes are available upon written request. Just write to the office at the Children's Home (P.O. Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557) and let us know how many your church needs.

We thank you for considering us for special offerings.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Ralph Sumner announces that he has a new address. It is P.O. Box 445, Bridgeton, North Carolina 28519. His old address was P.O. Box 298, Oriental, North Carolina. Please note this change.

OSCAR WEBSTER ENDOWMENT

Mr. Oscar Webster

Friends and relatives of the late Oscar Webster, who died October 4, have begun an endowment at Mount Olive College in his memory.

The endowment was proposed by the Rev. James A. Evans at the Beaufort County dinner for the College which was held in Chocowinity, October 8. An offering was received and additional gifts have been made by friends and members of his family.

Mr. Webster served as the College dinner chairman in Beaufort County for sixteen years and was an ardent supporter of Mount Oive. Two of his children attended the College.

He was a member of Trinity Church where he was a Sunday school teacher and deacon. A carpenter by trade, he was a well-known community and church leader. His past denominational posts included serving as president of the North Carolina State Sunday School Convention, treasurer of the Albemarle Union Meeting, secretary of the Albemarle Conference, and trustee of the Children's Home.

In his community he had served as a precinct chairman, local committeeman for the County Board of Education and President of the Bath Ruritan Club.

Mr. Webster was married to the former Laura Jarvis Cutler on September 24, 1939, who survives with two sons: Oscar J. Webster of Aurora, and Jimmy Webster of Pinetown; a daughter: Mrs. Ruth W. Olszewski of Keyport, New Jersey; two brothers, George Webster of Washington, and Tom Webster of Pinetown; four sisters: Miss Alice Webster and Miss Nellie Webster, both of Pinetown; Mrs. Angeline Hardison of Washington; and Mrs. Mary Hand of Portsmouth, Virginia; and six grandchildren.

CHURCH VISITS BY COLLEGE PERSONNEL

Sunday, October 23

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president, will be the speaker for College Day Services at Everett Chapel Church, Clayton. At 9:45 a.m. he will teach the combined Sunday school classes. He will also be the speaker for the 11 a.m. worship service. Dr. Billy Yawn is pastor.

Dianne B. Riley, director of admissions, will be at Calvary Church in Wilson. She will visit with the high school Sunday school classes to share the educational opportunities for young people at Mount Olive College. During the worship hour, Mrs. Riley will provide special music and bring the morning message. The Rev. John Boykin is the pastor.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE SINGERS TO PERFORM

Wednesday, October 19

Bear Grass High School, Williamston, at 9:30 a.m.

Tarboro High School, Tarboro, at 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 20

Jamesville High School, Williamston, at 10 a.m.

Creswell High School, Plymouth, at 1:10 p.m.

Friday, October 21

Manteo High School, Manteo, at 9 a.m.

Columbia High School, Columbia, at 1:30 p.m.

Friends of the college are cordially invited to hear the Singers when they come to the school in their community.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DINNERS

The annual church dinners for Mount Olive College continue. Free Will Baptists, alumni and friends of the college are invited to attend the dinner in their area.

Contributions this year will be especially helpful in assisting Mount Olive to become a four-year college.

Mrs. Jean Ackiss, director of the dinners, announces the *Wayne County Dinner* to be held Tuesday, October 25, 7 p.m., Mount Olive College Auditorium, Mount Olive. Mr. Colby Benton is the chairman. The Mount Olive College Singers will sing. The goal of the dinner is $18,000.

Duplin County Dinner will be held Saturday, October 29, at 6 p.m. at East Duplin High School near Beulaville. Mr. William Thigpen is chairman. The goal of the dinner is $10,000.

COMING EVENTS

November 17—The Board of Directors of the Children's Home will meet at 7 p.m., in Memorial Chapel Church, Middlesex

November 22—Board of Trustees, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, 9:30 a.m.

November 22—Founders Day, Rodgers Chapel, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, 11 a.m.

Have you renewed your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist*?

For October 23

THE RESULT: NEW PERSONS

Lesson Text: Ephesians 4:17—5:2; 2 Corinthians 5:17
Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:17

I. INTRODUCTION

We are alive! We had sinned, and sin is a killer—a killer so deadly that we could be counted as dead already (Ephesians 2:1). "But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ" (Ephesians 2:4, 5, *New American Standard Bible).*

To put it another way, we sold ourselves into slavery. When we did wrong we became slaves of sin (John 8:34). We had no strength to break our bonds, no riches to buy our freedom, no ability to run away. But, because He loved us, God bought us back from that bondage. As a kidnap victim is ransomed with a huge sum of money, we were redeemed. The price was not silver or gold, however. It was the life of God's dear Son! (1 Peter 1:18, 19).

"God Redeems His People." This is the general title of a unit of four lessons, and now we are coming to the fourth of them. We have considered (1) the problem of sin, which made redemption necessary; (2) the motive of redemption, which is God's love; and (3) the means of redemption, God's Son who gave His life for us. Now we come to the result of redemption: "New Persons."

When we become Christians we are new in more ways than one. First, we are different from the old persons we used to be. Our wishes, our motives, our character, our thinking, our talking, our acting—"all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Second, we are new in the sense that we are young. We are just beginners. We need to grow and mature. We need to develop wisdom and character and strength and goodness, to advance in favor with God and man and mature in Christ.

In the third chapter of John we read the words of Jesus, "Ye must be born again" (John 3:7). That is how we become Christians. We are born of water and of the Spirit (John 3:5). But we are born as babies, not full-grown Christians. Peter writes, "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (1 Peter 2:2).

We are called to new life as new persons, and the fourth chapter of Ephesians urges us to make our way of life worthy of that calling. We are to "keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3). Then we are to help one another to grow more like Christ (Ephesians 4:13). Our text then gives further instructions for our growing.

Alexander Pope was a brilliant writer, but bitterly quarrelsome, often attacking his contemporaries viciously and without provocation. How much of this was attributable to the fact that his body was misshapen by a serious illness, suffered when he was twelve years old, we can only conjecture. In 1711 he wrote *Essay on Criticism,* and this brilliant exposition of the canons of taste established his reputation. In 1734 he finished his *Essay on Man,* one of the most quoted of all literary productions. One day, sitting at his table with his head in his hands, Pope muttered, "O Lord, make me a better man." His page, who was standing near, and who was spiritually minded said, "It would be easier, sir, to make you a new man."

A great many of us do not really want to become new creations. We look longingly at some of the habits and practices of the past and want to keep hold of them. But glossing over our sins and shortcomings is like giving the pump a new coat of paint when the water has been found to be poisonous. We want to be whitewashed without being washed white. But if we would enter the Kingdom of God, we must become *new* creatures. Thank God He has made that possible in Christ Jesus!—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The following are some questions, issues, and illustrations which can help bring out the meaning in this lesson.

A. Are we today, like the Gentile Christians in Ephesus, still influenced by the values and life-styles of our society? If so, how?

B. What are some of the attitudes, values, beliefs, and habits in our lives which need to be replaced by Christlike ones?

C. How can we be angry without sinning? How can we deal with anger? Is anger ever proper for a Christian?

D. Should we always "speak the truth," even if it hurts someone? Besides, what does it mean to "speak the truth?"

E. How can we use language to build up rather than tear up?

F. St. Augustine had inscribed on his dining room wall these words: "He who speaks an evil word of an absent man or woman is not welcome at this table."

G. Alexander Whyte of Edinburgh said that all gossip should be subjected to three tests: Is it true? Is it necessary? Is it kind?

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

Scripture Reading—Romans 11

"WHO PUT SIN IN SINCLAIR?"

Dr. Walter Wilson, ever on the alert to speak to men about their souls and need of the Saviour, asked an attendant at a service station who had filled his car with gas: "How did sin get in Sinclair?" pointing to the lighted sign atop the gas pump. "I do not know, sir, how sin got into Sinclair; but, sir, I have wished many times that I knew how to get sin out of my life!"

It was then that Dr. Wilson had the opportunity to tell the young man of the One who is the sinner's friend and of whom it is written: "And thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21).

We cannot all be evangelists, but we can all be soul winners.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24

Scripture Reading—Romans 12, 13

THE ONE ESSENTIAL THING

Though I speak with the tongues of scholarship and though I use approved methods of education, and fail to win my pupils to Christ, I become as a cloud of mist in an open sea, as the moan of the wind in a Syrian desert.

And though I have the best teaching skill and understand all mysteries of religious psychology, and though I have all biblical knowledge, and lose not myself in the task of winning others to Christ, I become as a vapor on a warm summer morning.

And though I read all Sunday school literature, and attend Sunday school conventions, and institutes, and summer schools, and yet am satisfied with less than winning my pupils to Christ and establishing them in Christian character and service, it profiteth nothing.

The soul-winning teacher, the character-building teacher, suffereth long and is kind; he envieth not others who are free from the teaching task; he vaunteth not himself, is not puffed up with intellectual pride.

Such a teacher doth not behave unseemingly between Sundays, seeketh not his own comfort, is not easily provoked. He beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things.

And now abideth knowledge, methods, evangelism, these three, but the greatest of these is evangelism.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Scripture Reading—Romans 14, 15

YOUR MESSAGE CHANGED MY LIFE!

A commercial traveler named Rigby was compelled to spend a weekend every quarter in Edinburgh. He always worshiped in Dr. Alexander Whyte's church and always tried to persuade some other visitor to accompany him. On one occasion, having taken a Roman Catholic traveler there who accepted Christ, he called on Dr. Whyte to tell him of the conversion. The doctor then asked his name, and on being told that it was Rigby, he exclaimed, "Why, you are the man I've been looking for for years!" He then went to his study and returned with a bundle of letters from which he read such extracts as this: "I was spending a weekend in Edinburgh some weeks ago, and a fellow commercial named Rigby invited me to accompany him to St. George's. The message of that service changed my life."

Dr. Whyte said that twelve of the letters were from young men four of whom entered the ministry.

The bringing of one soul to Jesus is the highest achievement possible to man.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26

Scripture Reading—Romans 16; 1 Corinthians 1

GO, SEE THE COLONEL!

The fading sound of taps seemed to echo in the lieutenant's ears. As he sat wearily on his cot, an irresistible urge came upon him that he should go and see his colonel and speak to him about his soul. "It would result only in a reprimand and possibly court-martial to wander about the camp after taps," he reasoned as he tried to throw off the feeling. Still the urge persisted. A few minutes later, the lieutenant stood trembling before the barracks where the colonel stayed. "What are you doing here?" the colonel asked. Falteringly the lieutenant told him of the irresistible urge he felt to come and talk to him about the Saviour. Without saying a word, the colonel opened a drawer and took out a revolver. Then he said to the lieutenant: "If you had knocked at my door five minutes later, I couldn't have answered your call. I was about to take my life when you interrupted me. What you have said gives me hope. Come again tomorrow and tell me more about your Christ!" Then he added, "No, I won't use the pistol!'

The following morning, both knelt in prayer. They arose with deep joy in their hearts—one because God had used him to save a soul from death, the other because he had become a "new creature" in Christ Jesus.

Where are our tears for the lost? Where is our concern for confused, lost, sinful men?

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 2, 3

A FATHER'S JOY

Bruce Crozier, a seven-year-old boy, wandered from his father's hunting camp in Arizona. He was lost for six days and six nights. At last he was found, thirty-two miles from the camp. When the mother embraced him, she exclaimed, "It is almost impossible to believe I have my boy back!" Then she fainted. The father, who had directed a thousand searchers for the boy from his hunting camp, received by phone the joyous news, and he, too, lapsed into unconsciousness. We cannot measure the greatness of the joy of that mother and father.

Nor can we measure the "joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 4, 5

A SURE INDICATION

One of the surest indications that we have become new creatures in Christ Jesus is our deep, solicitous concern for the unsaved about us. Years ago a German servant girl presented herself for membership in the First Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas. The pastor, Dr. George W. Truett, explained to her that it was the custom of the church to examine those applying for membership in the church before receiving them. The girl burst into tears. Dr. Truett, a kindhearted man, was deeply distressed. Instantly he tried to explain further the rule of the church. "Oh," said the burdened girl, "it was not that. I was just thinking about my unsaved father and mother, brothers and sisters. I want to see them saved, too, and I am so burdened for them!" A deacon arose and said, "Pastor, let's receive her right now into the full fellowship of this church. She has shown us, beyond a doubt, that she is truly a child of God."

Lord, lay some soul upon my heart,
And love that soul through me;
And may I nobly do my part,
To win that soul to Thee!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 6—7:24

AWAKE THOU THAT SLEEPEST

Years ago in a Southern city, a young man, intent on suicide, took a lethal dose of a drug. He was rushed to a hospital. In those days, the treatment of such patients was most drastic. After administering a counteracting antidote, the young man was taken into an enclosure at the rear of the hospital. There two strong men, on either side of the would-be suicide, held him erect. A third man to the rear applied a lash on the patient's bare back if he stopped walking and tried to slump down into sleep. "Leave me alone! Leave me alone!" he pleaded piteously. Had he been left alone, he would have slept the sleep that knows no awakening on earth.

How typical of many rejecters of Christ. As they sleep in deadly unconcern and indifference, they want to be left alone. In their spiritual deadness they say, "Are we not rich and increased with goods? We have need of nothing. One world at a time for us!" Let us *not* leave them alone.

Let us do our best to arouse them and cause them to see their need of the Saviour.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

LOOKING AT SHERRON ACRES CHURCH, DURHAM

(Excerpts from the diary of the late John D. Currie)

February 9, 1941—Morning Service

Service began by singing the Doxology and opening prayer by Brother Claude Lynn. The sermon by the pastor was "Consecration of Soul and Body to God." This was a very interesting sermon which seemed to touch the hearts of many. At the close of the service the invitation was given and two went forward to consecrate their lives to God: Mr. Morton and Mr. Bennett.

By actual count 137 were present.

February 9, 1941—Evening Service

A wonderful sermon by the pastor resulted in many coming to the altar:

Margaret Harris	Dorothy Mitchell
Eleanor Copley	Henry Black
Carl Choplin	Ruth and Dora Hutchins.

THE BOOK CORNER

by De Wayne Eakes

Oates, Wayne E. and Rowatt, Wade. *Before You Marry Them (A Premarital Guidebook for Pastors)*, Broadman Press, Nashville, Tenn. (1975).

Dr. Wayne Oates is reknowned for his expertise in the field of counseling and in the area of the psychology of religion. He has written or edited over twenty-four books in that area. Those who know Dr. Oates' work appreciate the Christian world-view which is a basic foundation block of his work. He was professor of psychology of religion at Southern Baptist Seminary, 1948-74. He has been visiting professor at Union Theological Seminary and Princeton Theological Seminary. And he has served as Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences in the University of Louisville School of Medicine.

Dr. Wade Rowatt teaches psychology at Southern Baptist Seminary. His pastoral experience has been in Illinois, Florida, Kentucky, Texas and Indiana. He is director of Personal Counseling Service in Jeffersonville, Kentucky.

The following is a quote from the jacket of the book. "How can a pastor maintain his Christian concern within the present-day tensions regarding marriage? When should premarital counseling begin? Can the Christian pastor afford the reputation of being a 'marrying Parson?' "

These are some of the questions which Drs. Oates and Rowatt answer in this book. They see the marriage ceremony as an opportunity for Christian witness in the deepest sense. It is the public culmination of a pilgrimage in conversation between the bride and groom and their pastor. This is viewed within the larger context of his teaching and preaching ministry in behalf of Christian values in all personal relations.

"Present-day tensions regarding marriage are treated in chapters on the various 'generation-gaps' which affect premarital pastoral counseling and on the implications of the 'counter-culture revolution.' This is a book for pastors in our time."

No minister will be able to use all of the ideas presented by the authors. Every minister will find some very helpful and practical suggestions which can be readily implemented. Any responsible pastor should think through his responsibility as a "minister of God" as regards the performing of wedding ceremonies. He needs a reasonable policy and program of premarital guidance for his people. This book is a very practical common-sense approach to premarital guidance. Any one of our bookstores can order it for you.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

challenged. Some doors have already been closed because we did not take their opportunities seriously.

What will we do? If we are serious about our commitment, the way in which we do God's work will change.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 10)

Revival Services to Be Held At Holly Springs Church

Revival services will be held at Holly Springs Church, near Newport, October 24-28. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The Rev. O. B. Jones, their new pastor, will be the evangelist.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, October 30, after the 11 a.m. worship services.

Donald Ribeiro to Be Ordained

Mr. Donald Ribeiro will be ordained by the Central Conference Ordaining Council on October 27, at 7:30 p.m. in the fellowship building of the new Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, located on Cooper Street, Winterville.

Donald was named associate pastor in the business meeting on Friday night, October 7. He is also a second-year medical student at East Carolina University.

Everyone is invited to attend.

MAN IS A SINFUL BEING

A man does not have to be a Christian to know that "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Man's natural instinct tells him that there is a power, a person or a divine being to which he must, in some ways, answer or give an account of himself and his deeds.

How shall a man know that he is personally forgiven and accepted, unless there is a God whose voice speaks in him?

The very fact that a man, any man, recognizes good and bad, just and unjust deeds performed by man tells him that there is a counsel, a judge, a prosecuter and a defender to deal with all his activities, and to permanently dispose of them.

HYMNAL COMMITTEE QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CHURCH MUSICIANS

Name_____

Church Name_____

Church Conference _____ Your Position _____

The Title of Your Present Hymnal _____

When Purchased _____ The Cost When Purchased _____

The Size of Your Congregation_____

What Percentage of Songs Do You Sing from Your Present Hymnal? _____

Who Plans the Music Program of Your Church Worship Services (this includes hymn selection, responsive readings, and so on)?

_____ The Minister _____ The Choir Director _____ The Musicians _____ Other

Does Your Church Depend on Your Church Hymnal for Special Music Selections?

_____ Sometimes _____ 50% of the Time _____ Always

Would Your Church Musicians benefit from Music Written in Easier Keys?

_____ Yes _____ No

Please List Dislikes With Your Present Hymnal.

Do You Have Any Comments or Suggestions Regarding Your Present Hymnal or the Possibility of a New One?

In Your Own Words, What Would You Like to See in a Hymnal? Please Relate Your Likes and Dislikes.

In Your Opinion, Do We Need a New *Free Will Baptist Hymnal?* Please Explain Why.

Please send this to the following address: State Convention Hymnal Committee, Box 38, Ayden, NC 28513-0038.

Why Wait?

Keeping up with what is happening among Original Free Will Baptists is not always an easy task, but it is one we enjoy. With each and every printing of *The Free Will Baptist,* we try to provide information about meetings; details of work being accomplished by denominational enterprises, institutions, and auxiliaries; as well as inspirational materials which will challenge you to greater service. Every Free Will Baptist family should be receiving *The Free Will Baptist.* Why don't you subscribe today? Fill out the form below and mail it to the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513-0158.

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The Free Will Baptist

Many Americans worship their work, work at their play, and play at their worship (Robert Dale).

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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October 26, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden and Smithfield, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

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Editorial

What Fellowship?

There is much that is commendable in electronic religion; but it must be realized that the electronic church presents some serious dangers. By the electronic church we mean a radio or television program organized for a specifically religious purpose. In essence, the program creates a substitute for millions of listeners and viewers. Some of the programs are carefully planned. In many instances, it is evident that a clear desire exists to help those who tune in. Many of those who tune in do so regularly and express their gratitude quite generously to the religious personalities they faithfully follow.

Perhaps the best thing to say is this: religious programming does provide inspiration and comfort to persons who are deprived of corporate worship. A sensitive person is bound to be grateful that a word of encouragement and hope may come directly to persons who are confined within the four walls of their dwelling; this is indeed a remarkable blessing. We can also feel grateful for the help these programs provide for those healthy individuals who are for some reason or another displaced from their usual places of worship. We must praise God and express gratitude to those who provide true strength from the Scriptures and prayer in this manner.

Having recognized the above, we must point out the magnitude of danger. The greatest evil apparent to this writer is the confusion religious programming brings about the true meaning of the Church. Christianity elevates the conception of the "gathered fellowship"—this is how the Christian faith began and how it has survived.

Men can accomplish many difficult tasks, but being a Christian alone is not one of them. If someone wants to be a part of the Kingdom of God, he will find a "redemptive fellowship" of which he can become an integral part. As good as it may be to watch the sunset in solitude, that is not the way we will most likely recognize God's presence. We are far more likely to recognize His presence when we are gathered humbly, in reverence, with other humble people looking together in the same direction. Consider our Lord's words: "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20).

It must be realized that the power of Christianity does not emerge primarily when people listen to a sermon; it emerges when devout Christian people of any age are brought together in obedience—in **mutual** obedience. Christians who understand their calling do not gather to be entertained; they do so that they might share in an experience of redemptive fellowship which transcends individualism in a revolutionary manner.

Robert Barclay, the seventeenth century scholar, defended the value of committed Christians gathering together to worship:

> To meet together, we think necessary for the people of God, because so long as we are clothed with this outward tabernacle, there is a necessity to the entertaining of a joint and an outward testimony for God, and seeing the faces of one another, that we concur with our persons, as well as spirits. To be accompanied with that inward love and unity of spirit, doth greatly tend to encourage and refresh the spirits (*Apology,* XI, 3).

(Continued on Page 15)

"INVITED TO SERVE"

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt (Exodus 3:10).

Moses was a murderer, and here we see Moses running to get away from punishment. Moses had killed a man in Egypt. Now he is tending the flock for his father-in-law. He had taken them to the back side of the desert because he did not want anyone to know where he was.

But, God knew exactly where Moses was, just as He knows where you and I are. It was here on the back side of the desert that God appeared to Moses in a burning bush. Moses saw the bush on fire but it was not being consumed. He turned aside to see this great sight. Moses met God because he took time from his busy day to turn aside. We lose much that God has for us because we just don't have the time for God. When Moses had turned aside from his work, God began talking to Moses by giving him this invitation.

"Moses, you had better take off your shoes because this is holy ground that you are standing on." Anywhere that God is makes it holy ground.

God gave Moses an invitation, "Come now therefore." For all who will take the time, God has an invitation for them. The word *come* is used many times in the Bible when God is calling people to come to Him. "Come now, let us reason together, saith the LORD" (Isaiah 1:18).

Then the Lord will commission those that will take time out and turn aside, "I will send thee." We must come to Him before we can go anywhere for Him. We must receive something from Him before we can go and witness for Him.

Then there is always a purpose for everything that God does. The purpose that He had in mind for Moses was, "That thou mayest bring forth my people." God was going to send Moses back to the place where he had killed the man, because that is where God's people were.

Moses had an excuse, it was a bad excuse but he had one. Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go?" What are the excuses that we hear the most today? What is your excuse? Moses finally said, "Lord, I just can't talk." We hear that one today. Just ask someone to pray and he will tell you right quick that he can't pray in public. But that doesn't seem to bother him when he goes to a ballgame. He can holler and shout before thousands of people and be at ease. It doesn't bother him outside the church. He even runs his mouth and makes fun of you and God. He just doesn't seem to be able to keep his mouth shut. An alcoholic does not have a drinking problem, he can drink all he can get his hands on. The problem that he has is how to quit drinking. So that one that does a lot of gossiping does not have a problem talking, but how to keep his mouth shut. What's your excuse?

Then there is always a promise that God has for a person. God told Moses, "Certainly I will be with thee." God will take the place of our weakness. He will be with us and be our strength if we will just let Him. You see God was telling Moses that all would be all right. If we will take the time to turn aside from our work, God will do things for us. God will invite us to serve Him in some way in this life if we will let Him have His way in our lives. Now we cannot have excuses and expect God to use us because He will not. God will not accept an excuse; we must have a good reason then God will accept that. But if we will just say yes to God He will use us in His work somewhere, somehow. But we must get to the place that we want God to use us.

Did you accept the invitation when God invited you to serve Him? Did you say, "Yes, Lord I'm ready," or did you give God excuses? If we want God to be with us, then there is only one thing for us to do and that is to accept His offer. Have you accepted His offer? Are you willing for God to use you anywhere or any place that He so desires, then tell Him that you are ready. But until we are ready to do anything or to go anywhere that God wants to use us, He cannot and will not use us.

News & Notes

Harold Jones to Speak at East Rockingham Church

The Rev. Harold Jones, Foreign Missions Director, will speak at East Rockingham Church, Rockingham, on October 30, for the evening worship service. The time of the services is 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend. The Rev. Carl Lyons is pastor of the church.

Revival to Be Held at Dilda's Grove Church

Revival services will be held at Dilda's Grove Church, Route 1, Fountain, November 7-11. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. There will be special music and singing each night. The prayer rooms will open each night at 7:15. The Rev. Melvin Moore, pastor of Owens Chapel Church, will be bringing the message each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Clifford Ball, and the church membership invite everyone to attend.

Revival in Progress at First Church of Warsaw

Revival services are in progress through October 28, at the First Church of Warsaw. The Rev. Dean Kennedy from Beulaville is the guest evangelist. Special music is being presented each night. The public is invited to attend.

Revival Services to Be Held At Otter's Creek Church

Revival services will be held at Otter's Creek Church near Macclesfield, October 31—November 4. The Rev. Floyd Cherry will be the evangelist. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. There will be special music each evening. Everyone is cordially invited to attend this revival.

First Union of Western Conference to Meet

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet with Piney Grove Church near Kenly, on Saturday, October 29. The program will begin at 10 a.m. The Rev. Keith Cobb will bring the morning message.

Cape Fear Youth Meet

The Cape Fear Youth Rally met at Riverside Church on October 1, 1983. Lee's Chapel won the overall attendance banner with 27 present and Pleasant Grove won the youth attendance with 19. There were 195 present at the rally.

Cape Fear Youth voted to send each of the six enterprises $100.

A motion was made and carried that the pastor of each church have at least one person to represent each church at the rallies. If they don't they will be asked to tell why; and if there are any suggestions they should give them so the rallies can be improved.

Elections for all offices will be held at the November meeting. The offices are president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, song leader, recreation leader, and pianist.

The next meeting will be held at Robert's Grove on November 5, at 7:30 p.m.

Oak Grove Church Has Homecoming

The Rev. and Mrs. James B. Hardee

Oak Grove Church held its annual homecoming services on Sunday, September 25. Not only was it their homecoming, but it was also the 25th anniversary of their pastor, the Rev. James B. Hardee, in his service to the Lord with the people of Oak Grove.

The morning service began with a congregational song and prayer. Dr. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, taught the Sunday school lesson. Following these services and coming as a surprise to Mr. Hardee, G. C. Bryan Jr. gave a tribute to him as pastor of Oak Grove for 25 years. He emphasized how the pastor's ministry had touched all of their lives in these past years. The chairman of the deacon board, Mr. Paxton Price, then presented Mr. Hardee and his wife, Nancy, with a monogrammed silver platter showing the dates 1958-1983. The adult choir sang two songs which tried to best represent their pastor's life over the years—"All Because of God's Amazing Grace" and "Our Best."

Fellowship building

During the song service the congregation came forward to give Mr. Hardee and his wife their handshake of appreciation. This was followed by the junior choir of Oak Grove singing two songs. Before being seated Mr. Hardee acknowledged the presence of two people in the congregation. He made the comment that without their love and support his accomplishments and Nancy's would not have been possible. They were his mother, Mrs. Faidie Harrelson; and Nancy's mother, Mrs. Goalie Ward.

Dr. Raper was to bring the homecoming message, but instead he talked about the life of a preacher, some of the things he has to face when changing churches; but most of all he told about the kind of man it took to be able to stand behind the pulpit: Someone who can preach, step down from the pulpit, then go out to witness and watch over his congregation. To quote Dr. Raper, he said it took a "man with a heart." Oak Grove is very fortunate because they can truly say their pastor, the Rev. James B. Hardee, is such a man.

After the homecoming services closed the congregation enjoyed dinner in Oak Grove's new fellowship building. The building was constructed earlier in the year by the men of the church. This was the first official gathering in the new fellowship hall. It turned out to be a beautiful day to be gathered together in the name of the Lord.

Albemarle People to Have Meetings

On October 29, 1983, the people in the Albemarle District will have two meetings. The first meeting of the day will meet at Corinth Church, Plymouth. It will be the Albemarle Union Meeting. The beginning time is 10 a.m.

The Albemarle League Convention will meet at Mount Zion Church, Roper. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The scheduled programs are as follows:

UNION MEETING

Opening Session
Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones
10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Joe Griffith
10:10—Welcome, Pastor
—Response, the Rev. L. E. Ambrose
10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charlie Overton
10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time

Business Session
10:40—Report of Children's Home, via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, via Literature
—Report of Press, via Literature
—Report of Missions, via Literature
—Report of Cragmont, via Literature
—Report of Retirement Homes, via Literature
10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union
11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

Morning Worship
11:10—Hymn
11:20—Special Music, Host Church
11:25—Message, Pastor of Corinth
—Adjournment and Lunch

LEAGUE CONVENTION

7:30—Devotion, Mr. Dean Jones
7:40—President's Message, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill
—Hymn
—Recognition of Ministers
—Announcements
—Special Music
—League Program
—Minutes of Last Convention
—Business of Digest Committee
—Report of Digest Committee
—Awarding of Banners and Picture
—Treasurer's Report
—Minutes Read and Approved
—Adjournment
Pianist, Mrs. Mary Lucille Jones

Homecoming-Harvest Day at Robert's Grove Church

On Sunday, October 2, 1983, Robert's Grove Church, near Dunn, observed a wonderful day—Homecoming-Harvest Day. The Sunday school opened at 10 a.m. under the direction of the superintendent, Mr. Bobby Johnson, with 139 in attendance.

During the morning worship hour, Master Nate Honeycutt lit the candles, and the chancel choir sang, "Sing, Make a Joyful Sound," for the call to worship. Mr. Bobby Phillips led the opening prayer. Mrs. Bonnie Jackson conducted the memorial service, and recognized the passing of Mr. M. M. "Byrd" Tew and Mrs. Myrtle Jackson Barefoot. The choir sang a special in song entitled "Jesus Led Me All the Way." The Rev. Jerry Allen, pastor of the church, introduced the Rev. Bobby Taylor, executive director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, who delivered the morning message. His sermon was entitled "Homecoming." He used 2 Corinthians 5:1-9 as his scriptural background and expounded the difference in the physical and spiritual homecoming. He told how we make ready and enjoy the physical homecoming here, but how much more important it is to prepare ourselves for the spiritual homecoming when Jesus issues the great invitation to His homecoming in the sky. It was a wonderful message and was really enjoyed by everyone.

Then came time for everyone to have a chance to place their harvest offering on the altar. They received $5,354.35.

Tables were set up in the backyard and were filled with delicious food for everyone to enjoy along with the fellowship of old friends and new ones who had returned for homecoming.

The afternoon was filled with singing. Mr. Peyton Lee sang "Amazing Grace," and led the congregation in the chorus, "Praise God." The home choir sang several selections, and Mr. Ray Johnson sang two songs. But when he sang, "The Longer I Serve Him, the Sweeter He Grows," backed up by the Honeycutt Trio, tears filled the eyes of many in the congregation, and the Holy Spirit seemed to hover over everyone. The service was then turned over to "The New Life Singers" from Daniels Chapel Church, Wilson, North

(Continued on Page 15)

Superannuation

The Board of Superannuation has designed and implemented many programs for the benefit of both ministers and members of the Original Free Will Baptist churches in North Carolina. These programs are summarized for you below.

MINISTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM—The Ministers' Retirement System is the oldest program in the Superannuation work. Through the years, it has been revised to better meet the minister's need for a sound retirement.

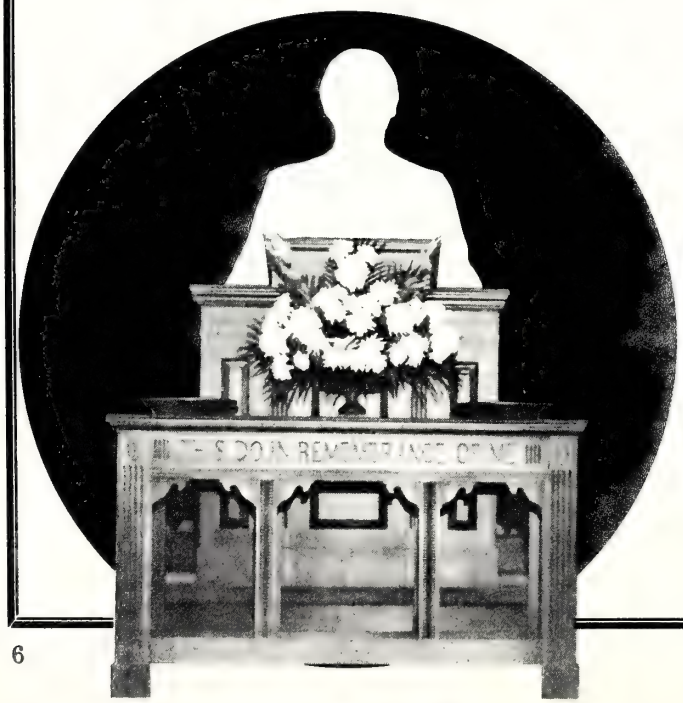
As each of you is aware, interest rates reached an all-time high in 1980 and 1981. In response to the minister's need to receive a higher return on his retirement dollar, the Ministers' Retirement System was amended and revised. Today, it exists as a tax-sheltered annuity allowing it to reflect earnings based on current rates and also to enjoy the tax deductability of other plans which are now available.

Other benefits give the plan advantages that cannot be found anywhere, in either the public or private sector.

Another added bonus is that this plan makes a special provision that allows the church to participate in this plan at a minimum of 25% of the minister's contribution to a total of 100%, if they so desire.

The church's participation is vital to the minister's retirement so that when he reaches the end of a long and fruitful ministry he can maintain his dignity and standard of living with a retirement income he cannot outlive.

A representative of this Board would be happy to meet with any church to establish this outstanding program.



MINISTERS' WIDOWS FUND—The Ministers' Widows Fund is a program in which each minister participating deposits $10 to the fund and at the death of any participating minister, the fund is forwarded to his widow. Each minister should participate in this program as a way of helping the widow of his brother ministers. The program works like this: When a participating minister dies, the proceeds of the fund are sent, usually the same day notification is received, to the minister's surviving widow.

These funds come to the widow at the most opportune time, immediately upon the death of her husband. There is no wait in time-consuming red tape; the money is there when she needs it.

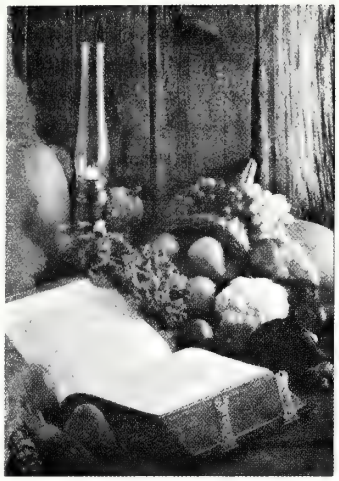
Every ordained minister in the North Carolina State Convention is eligible to participate. If the minister has been participating for over one (1) year, the entire fund is sent to his widow. If the minister has participated less than one (1) year, one half of the total is forwarded.

Following the death of a minister participating in the fund, the other ministers are notified that a new fund will be set up and those who desire to participate respond.

LIFE INSURANCE—The Board offers to those ministers to age 60 a permanent life insurance policy, the type that builds cash values, to any ordained minister who can qualify for life insurance. The Board pays 50% of the premiums for a period of 20 years or until the age of 65. After the premium-paying period, the Board recovers the amount they contributed, making that amount available to the next minister.

The amounts available are $20,000 to age 50 and $10,000 to age 60. This program is another example of the Board's desire to keep up with the needs of our ministers. The original plan was $2,000 coverage, an amount not realistic in today's financial environment. Twenty-seven companies and many different programs were considered before the Board selected Northwestern Mutual Life, generally recognized as the industry leader in low net cost protection.

For more information write: The Board of Superannuation, Box 38, Ayden, NC 28513-0038.



From whom all blessings flow.

"O Give Thanks unto the Lord; call His name: make known his deeds among the people. Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works. Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD" (Psalm 105:1-3).

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.

"A Christian Home for Boys and Girls"

Dear Friend:

It is our desire to share this letter of Thanksgiving with you and your church people.

During this season we are all reminded of the Thanksgiving due to our Lord—to praise God for His many blessings to each of us.

We wish to thank God for allowing Free Will Baptists the privilege of ministering to children. We are also thankful for the important part that you have been to this ministry. Your prayers, support and labors have been the outreaching Spirit of our Lord to children who could not help themselves.

We are making the deeds of His ministry known among the people. We invite you to join with us in giving glory to God for all His wondrous works, which reach out far and wide through His people.

As we continue to seek the Lord's guidance in the child care ministry, our hearts rejoice! November is Children's Home Month and we are asking that you continue to pray for this special ministry.

There are three ways we are requesting you and your church to share with your child care ministry. Would you have special prayer this month during your worship services for the Children's Home? Would you join us in praising God in Thanksgiving for His many blessings? Would you receive a special offering for the Children's Home?

We want to thank you for all that you have done to make this ministry successful for over sixty-three years. May God continue to use us together to bring glory and honor to His Name.

Yours, In His Service

Bobby R. Taylor

Bobby R. Taylor
Executive Director

Office (919) 235-2161/P.O. Box 249/Middlesex, North Carolina 27557

SPECIAL APPEAL: CLOTHES NEEDED FOR REFUGEES

October 31, 1983
Costa Mesa, California

Dear Brethren:

Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus.

There is a need for good used clothing for the H'mong people of California. We can use children and youth clothing of all sizes. The adult clothing should be small sizes no larger than medium.

Please, pack the boxes and ship proportionally; Santa Ana (2 boxes), Banning (2 boxes), Merced, (3 boxes), Fresno (5 boxes). Ship to the following addresses:

Santa Ana Lao Evangelical Church
% Wa Xang Moua
8672 Roosevelt Avenue
Midway City, California 92683

Merced Lao Evangelical Church
% Kee Moua
1320 West 25th Street
Merced, California 95340

Banning Lao Evangelical Church
% Wa Lo Lee
747 Pombreden Circle
Banning, California 92220

Fresno Lao Evangelical Church
Teng Vang
% Chum Kim M.D.S. Inc.
3229 Mayfair Boulevard
Fresno, California 93703

When clothing is shipped, please let me know the date of shipment and the number of boxes to each church, so, I can do a follow-up.

We will not only give this clothing to our members, but we will share it with other H'mong non-believers; that way it can be used as a witness for Jesus Christ.

It would be great to get the clothing before Christmas, it might just be the only thing some of them will get for Christmas.

We may make an appeal later on for used clothing to ship to the refugee camps in Thailand.

You might be interested that the Lao Evangelicals are now giving money to send to the refugee camps for Christmas.

Yours in His Service:
The Rev. Bob Harber, *Field Missionary*
3597 Harbor Boulevard
Costa Mesa, California 92626
(714) 432-8268

"STRANGERS IN OUR LAND"

Leviticus 19:33, 34: The strangers mentioned here were any who were not descendants of Jacob. The Israelites were instructed to treat them (strangers) as someone born an Israelite; they were to have the same privileges the Israelites had.

Numbers 15:14-16 states that the strangers were to have the same responsibilities the Israelites had. One "ordinance" for both the people of Israel and the "strangers" living with them.

Hebrews 13:2 indicates that we should be very careful in our treatment of "strangers," because they could be angels from God; drawing from the experience of Abraham and his treatment of those he believed were "strangers," but were really angels sent from God.

With this in mind, I want to share some of the story of "Strangers in Our Land," the H'mong people from Laos.

The H'mong people are "Highland Tribal" people from Laos who first became involved in the "Viet Nam Conflict" by helping to rescue downed American pilots. They were later recruited by our CIA to help out in the fighting. When American forces pulled out of Southeast Asia, because of their alignment with America, they as a people were marked by the Communists for complete destruction, therefore, they had to flee for their lives. I have heard many stories of their escapes from Communism and journeys through the jungles for days, weeks, and sometimes for months living on what they could find to eat, (bark, leaves, grass, bugs, animals, worms, etc.) to get to the refugee camps in Thailand, there to await the opportunity of immigrating to such countries as France, Canada, Australia, and the United States. Many are still in the camps.

Present statistics show 51,000 H'mong refugees in our country, with 35,000 in the state of California, with more migrating from other states into California constantly.

Their needs are many, and varied. They are poor, many of them escaped with only the clothes they had on their backs. They come from a primitive culture; most of the older people are illiterate; very few of them have any marketable skills, most lack the ability to successfully communicate in American English. At least, 90% of the adults either work for minimum wages, or are on welfare (which they hate). In

an open discussion time an elder of the Church asked me the question: "Is God through creating?" My answer was, "The Bible says there will be a new heavens and a new earth, but I believe He is through as far as this present earth is concerned. Why do you ask?" His reply was: "The H'mong have nothing, no country, no land, no home, nothing. Could He not make some island somewhere and place the H'mongs on it?"

The spiritual needs are also great; of the 35,000 in Califoria at least 25,000 are non-believers, coming from many pagan backgrounds. Many of the Christians have very little Bible knowledge, and very little practical Christian training. God has given us the opportunity and responsibility of sharing the gospel with the non-believers and teaching the believers.

We now have four Lao Evangelical Congregations, all located in California, (Santa Ana, the mother church, Banning, Merced, and Fresno); with a ministry to about 300 families. Many of them are eager to hear the gospel, and most non-believers attending worship respond to the invitation, most of the Christians are eager to learn, especially the youth. One young Christian man said to me: "I recently had a dream I could not understand. I dreamed I was back home and was a young boy again and my father sent me to take food to my brothers who were fighting in the war. Now, I know the meaning of that dream, the H'mongs are spiritually hungry and God has sent you to feed us from His Word, the Bible."

When my assignment and job description were presented at The Lao Evangelical Convention held in Merced, August 30—September 3, the Rev. Thao Vang Lee, pastor of the Merced Church said: "I had a dream sometime ago that I had been unable to understand to this day. I dreamed I was back home walking in the jungle and I saw a little bird that had fallen from its nest, there came two big birds unlike the little bird, and picked up the little bird and placed it in the nest and started feeding it. Today, I know the meaning of that dream, the littel bird is the H'mong people and the Lao Evangelical Church; the two big birds are the General Baptists and the Free Will Baptists. We have the people, you have the resources and the knowledge. I am reminded of what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 3:6 (I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase)."

Let us work together to give these "Strangers in Our Land" equal privileges and shared responsibilities.

Maybe, these "Strangers in Our Land" are "angels from God." Never before have we had the opportunity in our country to help so many, so much.

Mount Olive College

GRAND OPENING FOR COLLEGE HALL

Saturday, January 7, has been set for the "Grand Opening" of College Hall. Governor James B. Hunt Jr., has accepted an invitation to be the principal speaker for events beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The "Grand Opening" will be the first official event in College Hall and is designed as an expression of appreciation to all whose gifts and support are making possible this great project. All friends of the College are cordially invited.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DINNERS

Free Will Baptists, alumni and friends of Mount Olive College are invited to attend the annual church dinner in their area.

The dinners are held to provide gift support for the educational program and development of the college. Contributions this year will be especially helpful in assisting Mount Olive to become a four-year college.

The schedule for the following two weeks includes:

Duplin County, Saturday, October 29, 6 p.m., East Duplin High School near Beulaville. William D. Thigpen is chairman of the dinner. The goal is $10,000.

Wilson County, Tuesday, November 1, 7 p.m., Beddingfield High School near Wilson. James B. Hunt Sr. is chairman. The goal is $18,200. The Mount Olive College Singers will sing.

Washington, Tyrrell, Martin, Pasquotank and Chowan Counties, Thursday, November 3, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Union School, Roper. David Calhoon is chairman. The goal is $6,225. The New Creations will sing.

Carteret County, Saturday, November 5, 6:30 p.m., East Carteret High School near Beaufort. Reginald Styron is chairman. The goal is $8,300. The New Creations will sing.

Johnston-Wake Counties, Monday, November 7, 7 p.m., Everett Chapel Church in the Spiritual Life Building, Clayton. Philip Wood and Donald Coates are co-chairmen. The goal is $25,200. The Mount Olive Singers will sing.

PROGRESS REPORT ON DINNERS

Both attendance and gift support are up at the 1983 College dinners. In comparison with last year, the first seven dinners held this year have showned an increase of 11.6 percent in gifts and 14 percent in attendance.

HIGH SCHOOL VISITATION DAY

High school students are invited to Mount Olive College for fall Visitation Day on Saturday, November 5. Events will begin at 10 a.m. and continue through lunch.

The program will include campus tours, an introduction to the College conducted by

(Turn the Page)

students, alumni, and faculty, music by the Mount Olive Singers and the New Creations.

In the afternoon, interested students are invited for interviews for Academic Honors Scholarships, the Mount Olive Singers and the New Creations.

For free lunch reservations, students are asked to call the Admissions Office (919/658-2502, Mount Olive).

INTERESTED STUDENTS VISIT CAMPUS

Two students from Beddingfield High School in Wilson County were among recent visitors to the Mount Olive College Campus. From left to right are Jeff Taylor and Andy Davis. Mount Olive sophomore, Lisa Godwin, shows Jeff and Andy the Admissions Brochure. Lisa is a graduate of Beddingfield High School.

William Lewis is principal of Beddingfield, which is one of the leading schools in the state in the number of students it sends to Mount Olive College.

CHURCH VISITS BY COLLEGE PERSONNEL

Sunday, October 30

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president, will be the speaker for College Day Services at Sound View Church, Carteret County. At 9:45 he will teach the combined Sunday school classes. He will also speak at the 11 a.m. worship service. The Rev. Francis Garner is pastor.

Dianne B. Riley, director of admissions, will be at Friendship Church near Middlesex. She will visit with the 9:45 a.m. High School Sunday School classes to share the educational opportunities for young people at Mount Olive College. Mrs. Riley will provide special music and bring the morning message at the 11 a.m. worship service. The Rev. Paul Grubbs is pastor.

SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT

Mount Olive College students will hold their annual Spiritual Life Retreat the weekend of October 28-30, at the Oriental Free Will Baptist Church in Oriental, North Carolina.

Frank R. Harrison, chaplain at Mount Olive, announced that the retreat is open to all students for spiritual renewal and commitment through worship, prayer and Bible study.

The theme of the weekend is "Seek and you shall find," (Matthew 7:7). "Our students will have group discussions and they will be able to ask questions that they have about their faith and about God. The discussions will center on where the students are in their lives," says Mr. Harrison.

The Rev. Dwight Hawley will be the featured speaker at the 7:30 p.m. Friday night worship service. Mr. Hawley is the pastor of Rock of Zion Church, Grantsboro. The New Creations from the College will provide music throughout the retreat.

There will be a Singspiration Saturday night at the church. The public is invited to attend. The Singspiration begins at 7:30, with a campfire planned for later in the evening.

The weekend closes on Sunday after the 8:30 a.m. morning worship service.

VISITS BY MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVES

Representatives from the Mount Olive College Admissions Office are visiting in North Carolina high schools during the fall Post Secondary Opportunity Sessions. Students are invited to talk with the Mount Olive College representatives about their college plans.

Representatives are scheduled at the following times and places:

Dianne B. Riley, October 28, Wake County, Sanderson High School, 8:00 a.m.; Wake Forest-Rolesville Senoir High School, 11:00 a.m.

Don Hargrove, October 31, Sampson County, Hobbton and Midway High Schools at Hobbton High School, 8:30 a.m.; Lakewood High School, 10:45 a.m.

Don Hargrove, October 31, Duplin County, James Kenan and North Duplin at James Kenan, 1:30 p.m.

Don Hargrove and Wesley Beddard, November 1, Wayne County, Southern Wayne High School, 8:30 a.m.

Don Hargrove, November 1, Duplin County, East Duplin High School, 10:30 a.m.

Don Hargrove, November 1, Lenoir County, South Lenoir High School, 1:00 p.m.; Kinston High School, 7:00 p.m.

Don Hargrove and Wesley Beddard, November 2, Lenoir County, North Lenoir High School, 8:30 a.m.

Wesley Beddard, November 2, Greene County, Greene Central High School, 10:00 a.m.

Wesley Beddard, November 2, Pitt County, Ayden-Grifton High School, 1:30 p.m.

(Continued on Page 15)

COMING EVENTS AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE
(Open to the Public)

November 5	(Saturday)	*Campus Visitation Day* for high school students beginning at 10 a.m., and continuing through lunch.
November 22	(Tuesday)	*Founders Day Service,* 11 a.m., Founders Day Service, Rodgers Chapel, the Rev. N. B. Barrow, speaker
December 6	(Tuesday)	*Messiah,* by Handel, 8 p.m., at First Baptist Church performed by the Mount Olive College Concert Choir, Free Will Baptist Choral Society, and volunteers from the Mount Olive community
January 7	(Saturday)	Grand Opening for College Hall, 10:30 a.m., Governor James B. Hunt Jr., speaker

CONTRIBUTIONS AT THE STATE CONVENTION MISSION RALLY

ALBEMARLE

Hickory Chapel	$ 25.00
Mount Zion	100.00
Shiloh	50.00
Union Chapel	281.00
Total	$ 465.00

CAPE FEAR

Bethel Sunday School	$ 75.00
Casey's Chapel	60.00
Daly's Chapel	100.00
Goldsboro, First	500.00
Lee's Chapel	200.00
Mount Olive	10.00
Riverside	200.00
Robert's Grove	400.00
Smithfield, First	152.10
Smyrna	50.00
Saint Mary's Grove	150.00
Tee's Chapel	400.00
Yelverton Grove	275.71
Total	$ 2,572.81

CENTRAL

Ayden (Celia H. Garris Auxiliary)	$ 20.00
Dilda's Grove Sunday School	200.00
Edgewood Sunday School	50.00
Friendship	250.00
Friendship Sunday School	100.00
Grimsley	112.50
Gum Swamp	250.00
Hugo	233.90
King's Cross Roads	1,100.00
King's Cross Roads Layman's League	50.00
Marlboro	41.25
Owens Chapel	150.00
Peace	50.00
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Reedy Branch	100.00
Reedy Branch Sunday School	100.00
Rose of Sharon	146.91
Winterville	100.00
Total	$ 3,154.56

EASTERN

Arapahoe	$ 330.00
Arapahoe Woman's Auxiliary	50.00
Christian Chapel	200.00
Davis	100.00
Faith (Brunswick County)	5.00
Folkstone	100.00
Friendship	25.00
Grants Chapel	50.00
Juniper Chapel Auxiliary	200.00
Juniper Chapel	250.00
Kinston, First	225.00
May's Chapel Auxiliary	25.00
May's Chapel	522.00
Moseley's Creek	100.00
Northeast	380.00
Rooty Branch	50.00
Sandy Plain	150.00
Sneads Ferry	50.00
Snow Hill	200.00
Trent	251.51
Warsaw, First	75.00
Welcome Home	50.00
Westside	315.00
White Oak	21.00
Wintergreen	840.00
Total	$ 4,564.51

PEE DEE

Beaverdam	$ 100.00
Emerson	262.75
Total	$ 362.75

WESTERN

Agape Mission	$ 100.00
Durham, First	100.00
Everett Chapel	250.00
Fellowship	25.00
Fremont	225.00
Fremont Sunday School	75.00
Friendship	300.00
Holly Springs	300.00
Little Rock	250.00
Marsh Swamp	100.00
Mount Zion Sunday School (Wilson County)	25.00
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Pleasant Plain	135.00
Rains Cross Roads	428.50
Selma	50.00
Stancil's Chapel	50.00
Stoney Creek Auxiliary	50.00
Trinity	100.00
Union Grove	120.00
Unity (Wilson County)	250.00
Total	$ 3,033.50

Loose Offering	$ 492.75

INDIVIDUALS

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Ackiss	$ 50.00
Mrs. Grace L. Barbour	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. Noah Capps	25.00
The Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Coats	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon J. Daniels	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. Norvell Dawson	25.00
The Rev. and Mrs. Foy C. Futrelle	25.00
Mr. Floyd P. Harris	100.00
Mr. and Mrs. Sam C. Hobgood	50.00
Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Hott	50.00
Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt	100.00
The Rev. and Mrs. Harold Jones	426.00
Hazel Lynch	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Elza Manning	25.00
Miss Leah McGlohon	10.00
Mrs. Leona Mills	20.00
Miss Velma Morris	20.00
Mrs. Clyde Murray	25.00
The Rev. and Mrs. Terry Nealey	30.00
Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Roper	15.00
Mr. Danny Smith	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Armie R. Strickland	12.50
Mr. and Mrs. Willem van der Plas	100.00
Mrs. Ruth L. Warrick	10.00
The Rev. and Mrs. Frank Williams, Jr.	40.00
Total	$ 1,253.50
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	$15,890.38

I want to thank each one that gave at this year's Mission Rally. Because of your faithful support, we are able to continue this great ministry of world outreach. My prayer for each of you is that God will richly bless you with joy, peace and prosperity that surpasses all you have ever known.

Harold Jones
Director of Foreign Missions

Be thankful during this holiday season.

CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH

November is Children's Home Month. During this Thanksgiving season we will not have a Thanksgiving service on campus. We are asking each church to set a Sunday during the month as Children's Home Day, as best fits your schedule and will be most convenient for your congregation. We have promotional items that we want to send to you upon request. These are special offering folders, bulletins and bulletin inserts; and we will be happy to supply you with other information about the Home.

During this special time we ask that in your special service you join with us in prayer, praising God for His many blessings. Thank you for taking an active part in providing a quality child care ministry.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. O. B. Jones announces that he now has a new address. It is Route 3, Box 123, Newport, North Carolina 28570. His old address was 108 Hope Lodge Street, Tarboro, North Carolina. Please note the change.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 7:25—8

FORSAKEN

In a little cemetery beside the English church in Fatehpur, India, lie buried some English, Indian and American folk, all victims of mutiny. A single monument has been erected near their graves. Engraved on the monument is just one word: FORSAKEN. No names are mentioned. No next of kin are mentioned, because the bodies interred there are unknown and forsaken.

There could be erected, in every country on earth, a monument to the memory of countless precious souls, and that monument could bear the one word: FORSAKEN. Myriads of lost ones are neglected by God's people and they have died and gone out into the darkness of a lost eternity.

Many are utterly forsaken by a careless and an indifferent church which is too unconcerned to make any effort to save them.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 9, 10

DOWNWARD AND UPWARD REACH

Two phases of Christian truth are vividly portrayed by two artists. Each artist painted a picture of a huge cross surrounded by storm-churned, angry waves. Clinging with both hands to the crossbar of one cross is an imperiled seaman. His only purpose is self-preservation. On the other cross is portrayed a seaman, clinging tenaciously with one hand to the crossbar of the cross, while reaching down with the other hand to rescue a struggling mate from the tempest-tossed waters. Which picture more accurately represents what Christ wants each one of us to do amidst the waves of "life's restless sea"? As we "cling to the old rugged Cross" with one hand, let us keep one hand stretched out to lift the fallen ones and bring them to the "wondrous Sovereign of the sea," Jesus!

Children of God, our Heavenly Father has given to each one of us an infinitely greater responsibility—to warn and yearn over never-dying souls, souls which will spend eternity in Hell if we fail to warn them to flee from the wrath to come, and bring them to the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world!

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 11, 12

CONSISTENT ABOUT THE GREATEST THING

Dr. Wayland Hoyt had prepared a special sermon for a leading citizen who was not a Christian and seldom came to church. This man's wife was a devout Christian. "Tell your husband I especially want him to come to church tonight," said Dr. Hoyt to her. When the invitation was delivered, the man immediately phoned the pastor, thanked him for the invitation and said, "I will be there tonight." By nightfall, the clouds blackened and the rain poured down steadily. Only a few who lived near the church came. The specially invited person didn't come and Dr. Hoyt was discouraged. "What a failure I am in reaching that man," he said, self-accusingly. Then God seemed to say to him, "Why not emulate the example of your Saviour, and go to the man and preach your sermon to him as Jesus preached on the new birth to Nicodemus?" It was after midnight. He hesitated. Then God seemed to say to him, "If you knew that man's house was on fire, wouldn't you go and arouse him? Why not be consistent about the most important thing of all?"

Going out into the torrential downpour, Dr. Hoyt made his way to the house. The man greeted him tearfully and said, "Thank God, Dr. Hoyt! God sent you here to tell me how to be saved. The word you sent me stirred my heart. I could not sleep!" Both knelt and prayed. In five minutes the man was rejoicing in Jesus Christ, the Lord.

How few there are who will weep with Christ over a sick, sinful, and sorrowing world! Oh, for less organizing, and more agonizing. Oh, for more solicitous concern for others. "And when he was come near, he beheld the city and wept over it."

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 13—14:22

NOT MANY MIGHTY!

An alcoholic asked his brother, who was a Christian, for two dollars, so that he could buy drink. His brother said, "There is a Sunday school contest on at the Temple Baptist Church, and if you will take someone there next Sunday I will give you the two dollars." "It's a deal," said the alcoholic. He indeed took someone to the

Sunday school but left immediately himself. As he was going out of the church, a boy, who had a harelip, spoke to him about his soul and pleaded with him to invite Jesus to come into his heart, and asked him to stay for Sunday school. The alcoholic rudely rebuffed the boy and hurried away. God's Spirit, however, used the effort of that afflicted boy to bring conviction to the drunkard. He was later visited by two earnest soul winners and won to the Saviour, who delivered him utterly from the evil which had all but wrecked his life.

The main business of every Christian is daily to witness for Christ, and bring perishing souls to Him.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 14:23—15:19

WHERE CHRIST IS NOT KNOWN

Some Africans were getting on a river boat, carrying in their hands sacks and baskets of vegetables. They were going to market. One of them slipped and fell into the water. She grabbed for the side of the boat and held on until her fingers became numb. Finally she could hold on no longer and sank beneath the turgid waters. Not one native made a move to rescue her. They were stonily indifferent to her cries for help.

When the boat captain learned what had happened, he swore and cursed at the heartless natives. "Why didn't you reach down and lift her from the water?" he asked. They replied in chorus, "If we had, what would have become of our fruits and vegetables?"

Before we pass judgment on these cruel, benighted heathen, let us do a bit of heart-searching. All around us are those who are going into eternity without God and without hope—forever lost.

Too many Christians sing about rescuing the perishing, but do little or nothing about it.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 15:20—58

NOBODY CARED ENOUGH TO TELL ME

A conscienceless, sinful father taught his children to steal. "If you return home empty-handed, I'll flog you!" he would threaten them. Some time ago, a student of the Moody Bible Institute gave this man a gospel tract, and earnestly pleaded with him to repent of his sins, receive Christ, and live for Him. The Holy Spirit convicted the man of sin so that he cried to God for mercy. Christ heard his cry and transformed his life. Later he said, "I'm sixty years old and it is the first time I have ever made a start in the right direction. Until that Christian worker told me about Jesus, nobody ever cared enough to tell me."

If we work upon marble, it will perish. If we work upon brass, time will efface it. If we rear temples, they will crumble into dust. But if we work upon immortal souls, if we imbue them with principles, with the just fear of God and love of fellow men, we engrave on those tablets something which will brighten all eternity.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 16; 2 Corinthians 1

SHE DIDN'T GIVE UP

Out on the great American desert, an Indian child was lost. There was great fear and excitement. For hours, many searched for the lost child, but to no avail. The searchers began to go silently and sorrowfully away. There was one, however, who would not give up the search—the child's mother. "Not until death reaches me will I stop searching for my lost child," she said. Trudging onward, she finally slumped on the desert sands. When her ear was close to the ground, her keen sense of hearing revealed the faint voice of her crying child. She jumped to her feet and exclaimed, "I have heard my child's cry!" She ran in the direction where the cry came from and mother and child were soon in each other's joyous embrace.

The Bible says that there is joy in the presence of the angels of God when lost souls are found, and when they turn with sorrow to God. How glad we are that the Lord Jesus came to earth to seek and to save that which was lost.

Oftentimes even God's children stray, and need to plead the prayer, "I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy servant; for I do not forget thy commandments" (Psalm 119:176).

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

The average insurance agent makes forty-five weekly calls on prospects. Only fifteen listen to him. Of those fifteen, only *two* put their names on "the dotted line."

"If an insurance agent calls on forty-five people and sells only two policies, should soul winners be discouraged if they make a thousand calls, and bring only *one* soul to Jesus? Never!

Sunday School Lesson

For October 30

GOD'S GRACIOUS COVENANT

Lesson Text: Exodus 19:5, 6; Hebrews 8:6-13
Memory Verse: Hebrews 8:10

I. INTRODUCTION

The word *covenant* is not often heard or used except in church, but covenants are facts of life for most of us. In today's English we more often call them contracts. A special kind of covenant or contract may have a more specific name, such as *lease.*

Do you rent an apartment? Your lease is a covenant. Are you buying a home or a car with monthly payments? You have a covenant with the seller or a lending institution. Are you having a house built to your own specifications? You have a covenant with the builder. Are you married? You have a covenant with your wife or husband. Are you a teacher, a baseball player, a bricklayer? You have a covenant with your employer. Are you an employer? If you so much as hire a baby-sitter, you probably have a verbal covenant stipulating the rate of pay, where she is to call you in case of need, what time she is to put the kids to bed, and whether or not she may raid the refrigerator.

Our covenants give us a sense of security. We know what we are expected to do or to pay, and we know what we are entitled to get in return. Knowing we are to get so many dollars each week for our work, we know how many dollars we can afford to pay for rent and payments on the car. The moneylender may be short of funds himself, but he cannot demand a larger monthly payment unless we agree to it. The employer may be running behind on production, but he cannot require us to work on Saturday unless he is willing to pay overtime. We have a contract.

God's covenants likewise provide security. We know what is expected of us, and we know what to expect.

Adam's duties were clear, though stated in general terms. He was to take care of his environment and populate it. In return he might eat anything that appealed to his taste—with one exception (Genesis 1:27-29; 2:15-17). Noah stepped into the same duties, with some added restrictions and added promises (Genesis 8:21—9:17). Abraham was summoned to a separated life and a special blessing (Genesis 12:1-3).

Centuries later Abraham's descendants moved out of Egypt to begin their life as an independent nation. Then God's covenant was made specific. Duties of the people were spelled out in detail. The rules ranged from the prohibition of murder (Exodus 20:13) to the instruction that a man might eat some grapes in a neighbor's vineyard, but must not put them in a basket and take them home (Deuteronomy 23:24). And what could the people expect if they would keep the rules? They could expect peace and prosperity. That too was spelled out at length (Deuteronomy 28:1-14). They could expect misery if they failed to keep the rules. That is stated in even greater detail in Deuteronomy 28:15-68.

There are various ways of making a covenant. Often we hear that representatives of management and labor sit at the bargaining table for weeks or months before they can agree on a contract. But when you go to the bank to borrow money for a new car, there is no week-long bargaining. Probably the covenant is already printed except for the date and amount. You can reject the prepared contract, of course; but that means you don't get the money.

In this latter way God's covenants are made. He knows what is right, and He offers a covenant that is right. You can reject it, but that means you do not get the blessings promised to those who accept it.

There were perhaps three million Israelites who came out of Egypt. Now to be a nation, they urgently needed good laws. God met that need with laws adapted to the time, the place, and the people. Those laws were incorporated in the covenant mentioned in our text.

However, that covenant was not meant for all time or for all people. Not even all the children of Abraham were included in it—only the Children of Israel. That covenant was designed to serve its purpose in its time and then to be replaced with a better one. The larger part of our lesson text speaks of that "better covenant" (Hebrews 8:6).—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A. Marriage is a good illustration of the covenant relationship. The Christian faith sees marriage as a covenant. It is made, not only between a man and woman, but also with God. The marriage covenant is symbolized and solemnized by a ceremony and the making of vows. The couple promise their complete and eternal commitment to each other. Likewise, God promises to make them one and bless their home.

B. You might like to discuss this marriage covenant. What are the specific promises made in the vows? What happens when those vows are faithfully kept? What happens when they are not?

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

We might think that we could keep up our faith and witness without attending church—but facts do not bear this out to be true. Individual Christianity tends to wither and die—Christians who do not gather together usually denounce their faith.

There is no doubt that electronic inventions are brilliant and involve marvelous potential. In all honesty, though, the electronic church also presents the danger of passivity. Everything is done for us. Individual involvement is almost out of the question. Yes, I realize that the grateful viewer can write a letter of gratitude to the producer; he can send money to the producer or "minister" to help defray "expenses." Both of these actions are minimal and marginal. The fact still remains: What is experienced is no more than a production. (Oh yes, I would not suggest that viewers call their television or radio pastors when tragedy strikes them—I believe they may need someone a bit more local!)

The danger does exist that church attenders may think of themselves as observers. "This is the primary revelation of themselves that people give when they choose back seats. They are trying, consciously or unconsciously, to avoid involvement." Emotionally, it is much cheaper to watch an act than it is to participate in it. The electronic church universalizes the "backseat syndrome or mentality." The sense of fellowship with other Christians is rendered almost nonexistent.

The electronic "church" does not exist. There may be elements of prayer, of Scripture, of sermon, of music; but in the final analysis, these components merely constitute a performance. The deepest meaning of the Church is a gathered fellowship of believers; and committed believers act on what they hear.

It is hoped that those who are still mobile enough to attend church will not substitute the screen for the altar.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 5)

Carolina. They sang many selections and did a splendid job. Service was then dismissed by Mr. Bobby Johnson.

A very large crowd attended the all-day services, and everyone could really feel the presence of the Lord in the worship and fellowship that day.

Current Events at Pleasant Hill Church

The youth at Pleasant Hill Church, Route 2, Pikeville, have been busy during the summer and fall. The Cherub group sold Stanley degreaser as a fund-raising project. The YFA sold doughnuts, and the Sunbeams had a rock-a-thon. Together they raised more than $300 to use on various projects.

They also helped to clean the church grounds prior to homecoming and attended the movie, "The Prodigal," as a group.

Auxiliary members in the home of Mrs. Hettie Witherington.

The Pleasant Hill Auxiliary members have met in the home of shut-ins on various occasions. On October 10, they visited in the home of Mrs. Hettie Witherington.

The ladies presented Mrs. Witherington various food items. Mrs. Linda Bunn led the group in a devotion. Afterward, Cori Bunn added to the program by singing choruses.

Revival services will be held at Pleasant Hill beginning November 7, at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Robert May of Ahoskie will be the guest evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Henry Armstrong, extends to everyone an invitation to attend.

Upcoming Events at La Grange Church

Revival services will be held at La Grange Church, La Grange, October 31—November 4. The Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor of Marlboro Church, Farmville, will be the guest evangelist. Services will begin each evening at 7:30.

On Sunday, November 6, the church will observe its annual homecoming. Sunday school will begin at 10 a.m. and worship services at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall at noon. Following lunch there will be a singspiration.

The pastor, the Rev. Ronnie V. Hobgood, and church members invite everyone to attend the revival and homecoming services.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

Wesley Beddard, November 3, Pitt County, D. H. Conley High School, 8:45 a.m.; J. H. Rose High School, 10:15 a.m.; North Pitt High School, 1:30 p.m.

Don Hargrove, November 3, Beaufort County, Washington High School, 6:30 p.m.

Wesley Beddard, November 4, Pitt County, Farmville Central High School, 9:00 a.m.

Wesley Beddard, November 9, Brunswick County, North, South, and West Brunswick High Schools at North Brunswick High School, 7:00 p.m.

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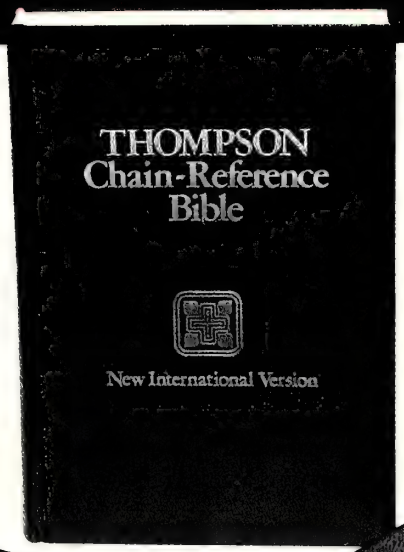

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The Free Will Baptist

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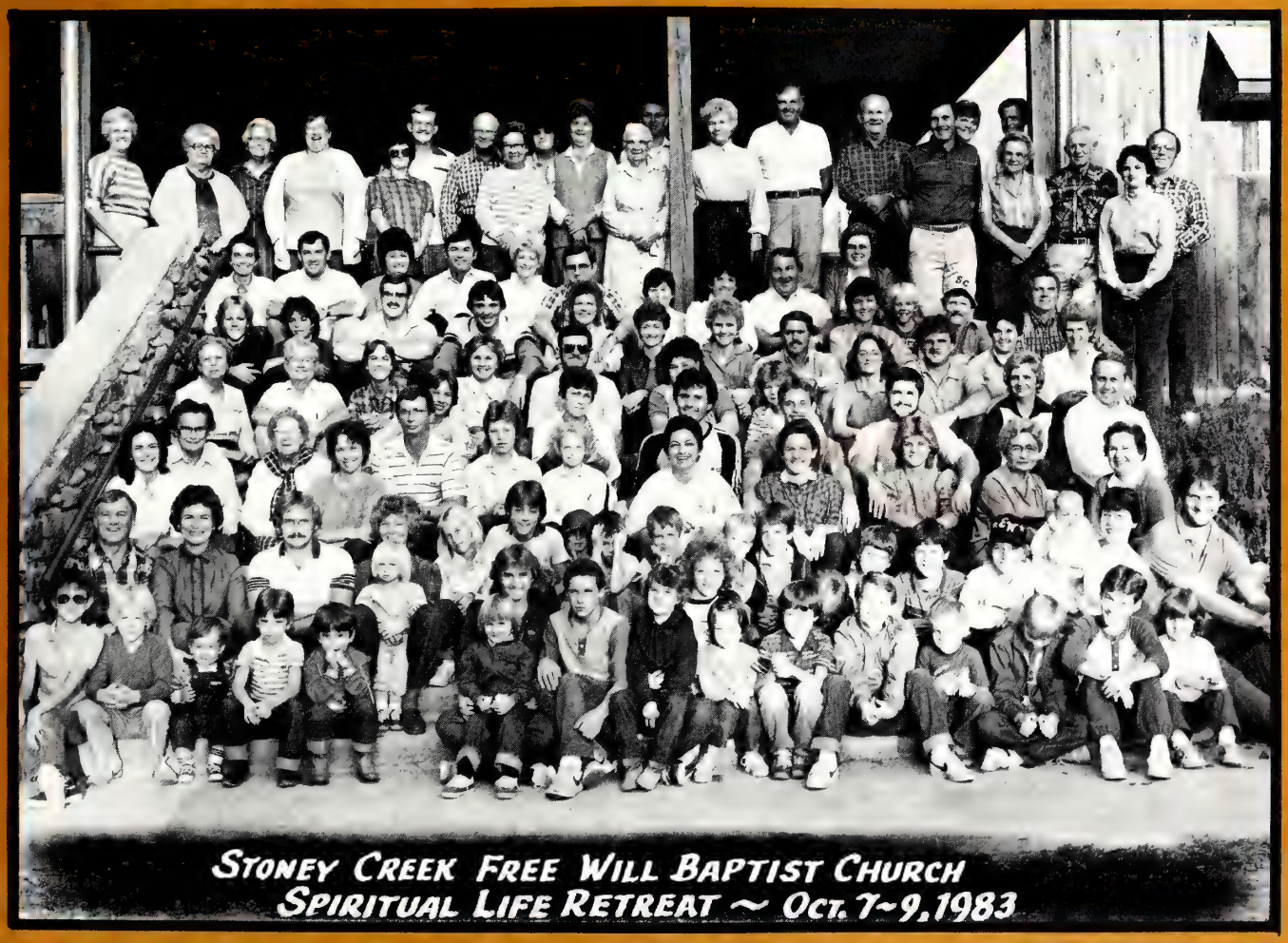

One hundred and sixteen people from Stoney Creek Church traveled to Cragmont for a Spiritual Life Retreat on October 7-9. Pictured above are many of those who enjoyed the relaxation of Cragmont. Through fellowship, group devotions, sharing meals, rocking and talking, gathering on the porch and in front of the fireplace, and through worship services many were spiritually refreshed. No one had any trouble finding something to do. One of the greatest things about a weekend at Cragmont is that you do not have to do anything. Once people slow down God's voice can be heard. This was the result of our weekend together. We at Stoney Creek thank the Lord for the foresight of Free Will Baptists to purchase Cragmont years ago. We are also thankful to be a part of Free Will Baptists who continue to support such a fine ministry at Cragmont Assembly.

The Free Will Baptist

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Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

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Editorial

An Appointment With the Great Physician

Whenever I go to the doctor's office—which is more often than most—I do not go in, tell him what is wrong and how to treat me. Instead, I go in, have lab work, tests, and/or X-rays done; then I let the doctor listen, poke, probe, or twist. Afterwards, he gives his counsel. For the most part, it is up to me whether or not I follow his advice. And I always have the assurance that I can pick up the phone and call my doctor(s) whenever my physical condition seems out of kilter.

I must admit that I am one of those people who do not care for physical checkups. I figure that as often as I am in the doctor's office, anything that might cause me real trouble is bound to show up without having to be looked for. (Yes, I know the fallacies of such a philosophy.) But feel assured, I am not one of those who fail to go to the doctor because they are afraid of what would be found. I do not belong to the group of people who figure that as long as they aren't in pain there is no need for care.

Some individuals do not go to the doctor because they do not want to know what needs to be changed; they think they will not be "held accountable" for their "ignorance." While some people just do not trust those in the medical profession and feel they are just seeking "big bucks," the largest group of people who do not seek medical attention merely procrastinate. They believe checkups are a great idea, but they never find the time.

The main problem that is caused by our lack of "physical maintenance" is we never function quite up to par. Now checkups will not alleviate health problems, but they will help us deal more effectively with them.

Our lack of proper health care maintenance does not stop with our physical being; we do not monitor our spiritual life, either. In fact, we seldom consider our spiritual condition until tragedy strikes and we feel powerless in the face of difficulties.

For the most part, we do not think about our personal time with God or the quality of that time. We have heard many sermons on the matter, feel it is a pretty good idea—but we never act on making it a part of our lives. We do not like to think about our struggles with temptation and our dependence on money and possessions. For the most part, we could not care less whether we are using our spiritual gifts for the cause of Christ.

Many of us do not live victorious Christian lives, but the "discovery of spiritual illness must precede its cure." For this reason, I suggest that you work through the checklist found below and continued on Page 15 of this issue. To do so, you will need some paper, a pen or pencil, several hours of uninterrupted time, and the willingness to be honest with yourself and with God. After you have worked through the questions, you might want to review them with your pastor. If so, call him and set up an appointment. He will probably want your answers a week in advance of your appointment for review purposes.

(Continued on Page 15)

Jesus Christ, the Living Word of God

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

The Negro spiritual raises the enduring issue of Jesus:

"Long time ago, you wuz born.
Born in a manger low . . . .
The world treats you mean, Lord.
Treats me mean too. But that's
how things is down here. We
didn't know 'twas you.

You done showed us how. We is a
tryin'. Master, you done
showed us how even when you's
dyin'.

Just seems like we can't do right.
Look how we treated you. But
please, suh, forgive us, Lord.
We didn't know who you wuz."

It is the very same incarnation issue underscored by John:

"And the Word was made flesh and
dwelt among us. He was in the
world and the world was made by
Him, and the world knew Him not.

He came unto His own and His own
received Him not."

This is the enduring issue of Jesus Christ:

"He came unto His own and His own
received Him not."

Those original New Testament folk and their immediate successors had to make one monumental decision. They had to make their minds up about who Jesus Christ really was.

It took time—lots of time—but slowly, surely, they reached their conviction. Here it is: "Jesus Christ is God's only Son, our Lord."

Some years ago, Dr. Joseph R. Sizoo, Director of the Chapel, George Washington University, wrote an essay entitled, "What Manner of Man Is This?"

His central point in that essay was that "the most distinguishing characteristic which separates Christianity from all other religions lies in the personality of its Founder."

He is right:

Hinduism is loyalty to an idea.
Confucianism is loyalty to a tradition.
Shintoism is loyalty to a country.
Islam is loyalty to a code.
Buddhism is loyalty to a method.

Only Christianity is loyalty to a Person! You may conceive of Christianity without an organization; you may conceive of it without a ritual; you may conceive of it without a creed. But to think of Christian faith without Jesus Christ is as incredible as it is impossible.

I say, those original New Testament folk had to make up their minds—and their hearts—about one thing for sure. Exactly who was this Man of Nazareth? What manner of man was he?

This is what they decided: Jesus Christ is God's only Son, our Lord.

In that simple/profound statement there are four crucial affirmations of faith about him.

1. *HE IS JESUS.*

Here is their conviction in relation to his manhood. It affirms his real and genuine humanity. Lend me your mind. Journey with me back into the days of His flesh. Let us search for the clues indicating what manner of man was this Lord Jesus Christ. Carlyle was right, "Great men have short biographies." About all we know from eyewitnesses of Jesus is crowded into a few pages at the beginning of our New Testament.

He left no record himself. He wrote no scroll. He kept no diary. He left no orders that the details of His life be recorded in an affidavit. Thus we have no autobiography of Jesus.

What we have are four testimonies, four witnesses by persons who knew Him and loved Him. Even these four do not furnish us a photograph of Him but a broad-brushed verbal portrait written down a generation after He

(Turn the Page)

had lived. Such events as we have of His life are quickly told.

He was miracle born to a young virgin in an obscure cave in the dead of night on a Judean hillside attended by animals, odors, and grimy shepherd folk. He grew up in a sheltered mountain village among the common peasantry of Palestine, where Rome ruled all the real estate. He had four brothers and two sisters. He attended the synagogue school. He was confirmed at age 12. He grew up in a normal home, sharing normal duties. He learned how to trim wicks and fill oil lamps. He could build fires and fry fish. He learned His father's carpenter trade and how to tend sheep.

Apparently Joseph died before Jesus was grown, so he, being the eldest son, became the responsible head of the family. All the while two fires burned within Him. One flamed for His immediate task at home. The other flamed for His divine task in the world.

One day he closed the door of the Nazareth carpenter shop to walk out of that village where caravans crossed into the world.

Then He went south to be baptized by his cousin, John, Elisabeth's son, and at age 30 He trudged back into Galilee declaring that indeed the Kingdom of God had come. The crucial remainder of His story is wrapped up not so much in what He said or even in what He did, but in the fact of *who* He was. They called Him Jesus.

"Jesus" is the Greek form of the Hebrew name, "Joshua"—"Deliverer." At least five Jewish High Priests were named Jesus. In the New Testament we meet Jesus Justus (Colossians 4:11) and the sorcerer of Paphos called Bar Jesus (Acts 13:6).

So, His very name affirms that Jesus was a man among men. "Jesus" marks His humanity. It underscores His perfect and complete manhood.

2. *HE IS CHRIST.*

Here we see Jesus in His relationship to the Jewish people and their history. The word "Christ" is the same as "Messiah." "Christ," the Greek, and "Messiah," the Hebrew, both mean "anointed." The Messiah is the central figure in Jewish religious thought. The Jews never forgot that they were a covenant people.

Someday, someway God would come to them and deliver them into their appointed destiny as the people of God. The agent of that deliverance was to be the Messiah. He was the anointed One from God who would bring in the reign of God and in whom the history of God's people would be consummated and all God's promises fulfilled.

In the Messiah it was believed that God Himself would enter the arena of human history for man's sake. That is exactly what the earliest Christians believed happened in Jesus Christ. He was Saviour!

His birth, for them, split time in two: time before was "B.C."—"before Christ." Time after was "A.D."—"anno domini"—"the year of our Lord."

The title "Christ," affirms this man, Jesus, as the climax not only of a people's history but of the world's history also.

Now Messiahs were nothing new in first-century Palestine. In fact, the place was famous for street preachers. Every year a new crop of them arose. Up and down the dusty land they cackled like geese. Some of them shouted, their wild eyes flashing fire. Others, pale-lipped, droopy-eyed, whispered their promises.

NONE LASTED LONG! That is, until this one came along. He stood tall, talked sense. He was every inch a man. And boy, was He contemptuous of platitudes!

To look upon Him was to know that He had the appearance of His countrymen, but to ponder Him for long was to know that He was utterly unlike anyone before Him or since. Jesus was *monogenes,* the "only begotten," unique Son of God, Son of Man—JESUS CHRIST.

C. S. Lewis said it: "I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: 'I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be the Christ.' That is the one thing we must not say. A man who is merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on the level with a man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Christ, or else a madman or something worse."

They called Him "CHRIST." And He is!

3. *HE IS GOD'S ONLY SON.*

Here we affirm Jesus Christ in His relationship to God. This is the place where the whole matter runs right into a cloud bank of mystery. Our railroad tracks of knowledge run right into a swamp. Here is the forever unfinished task of Christendom—defining the relationship of Jesus to God. We can begin with one perfectly definite fact. The New Testament does not merely say that Jesus is God's Son. It says that he is God's ONLY Son!

Jesus Christ is *monogenes*—the only one of His kind, absolutely unique!—W. Randall Lolley, *President,* Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

Used by permission *Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary Bulletin.*

(Continued next week)

PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

The Children's Home has several promotional items that we would be happy to send to you to use in your church during November to assist you as you promote Children's Home Month. These items include coin folders, bulletins and bulletin inserts. Call or write to the Home to place your order. There will not be any charge to you.

We ask that you be much in prayer for the Children's Home during the month of November, praising God for his many blessings and seeking His guidance for the future of this ministry.

CHILDREN SHARE THEIR INTERESTS AND GOALS

We would like for you to meet a couple of our children, their interests, and future goals.

Kenneth is a 17-year-old young man who enjoys participating in all out-door sports. He is actively involved in our campus work program and is a tremendous help to our maintenance department. Kenneth attends North Wake Optional High School. His future plans are to finish high school and pursue a military career.

Betty is a 15-year-old teenager who enjoys swimming, tennis and softball. She is very musically talented and is often seen singing and playing the piano. Betty is also actively involved in our campus work program, in which she works in our Educational Center. She is a sophomore at Southern Nash Senior High where she is a member of the chorus. Betty's future plans include finishing high school and she hopes one day to get married and raise a family.

We are very proud of these children, their interests, and their goals, as well as all of our children in care. We ask that you continue to pray for our children as they strive to meet the goals they have set in their lives.

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
July, August, September, 1983
Total, $37,163

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Hickory Chapel	$ 150
Malachi's Chapel	150
Mount Tabor	236
Mount Zion	147
Union Meeting	21
Shiloh	196
Sound Side	150
St. Paul	142
Trinity	100
Union Chapel	99
Total Albemarle Conference	$ 1,393

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Bethel	$ 20
Casey's Chapel	70
Daly's Chapel	300
Goldsboro, First	550
Hopewell	91
Lee's Chapel	200
Oak Grove	200
Palmer Memorial	244
Pleasant Grove	600
Robert's Grove	885
Saint Mary's Grove	50
Shady Grove	320
Smithfield, First	120
Tee's Chapel	70
Yelverton Grove	156
Lanwood Chapel	25
Mount Olive	(40)
Smyrna	100
Total Cape Fear Conference	$ 3,963

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	$ 625
Bethany	503
Black Jack (Pitt)	686
Cedar Grove	100
Community	10
Daniels Chapel	325
Dilda's Grove	292
Elm Grove	6
Free Union	1,058
Friendship	453
Gum Swamp	809
Greenville, First	480
Grimsley	50
Harrell's Chapel	150
Hickory Grove	35
Hugo	458
Hull Road	93
King's Cross Roads	35
La Grange	400
Little Creek	245
Marlboro	482
Union Number 2	14
Ormondsville	8
Otter's Creek	101
Owens Chapel	100
Peace	30
Piney Grove (Pitt)	198
Reedy Branch	356
Rocky Mount, First	125
Rose Hill	543
Rose of Sharon	271
Saratoga	216
Tarboro, First	100
Williamston, First	81
Winterville	665
Piney Grove (Beaufort)	175
Union Number 4	57
Total Central Conference	$10,345

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	$ 375
Arapahoe	330
Bethlehem	10
Beaufort Mission	187
Bridgeton	150
Cabin	20
Croatan	200
Deep Run	216
Dublin Grove	299
Edwards Chapel	45
Friendship	195
Core Creek	580
Holly Springs	70
Jackson Heights	307
Juniper Chapel	200
Kinston, First	78
Lanier's Chapel	235
Moseley's Creek	120
Mount Zion (Pamlico)	100
Mount Zion (Onslow)	120
Fifth Sunday School Convention	25
Union Number 3	50
New Bethlehem	131
New Haven	359
Northeast	106
Oak Grove	58
Oriental	10
Pearsall Chapel	190
Pilgrim's Home	350
Pilgrim's Rest	25
Rock of Zion	107
Rooty Branch	100
Smith's New Home	90
Sneads Ferry	100
Snow Hill	200
Sound View	80
Spring Hope	10
Saint Mary's	676
Trent	20
Warden's Grove	323
Westside	575
Whaley's Chapel	150
White Hill	20
White Oak Grove	20
Wintergreen	20
Davis	200
Faith Mission (Brunswick)	56
Folkstone	27
Free Union	35
Saints Delight	246
White Oak	41
Beulaville	705
Auxiliary Convention	170
Total Eastern Conference	$ 9,119

(Continued on Page 11)

Elm Grove Ladies Auxiliary To Have Bazaar

The Ladies Auxiliary of Elm Grove Church in Ayden will be having their fall bazaar on November 12, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A barbecue dinner cooked by Ernest Carraway will be served from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. The cost of the dinner is $3. There will be many different shops at this bazaar, such as bakery, country store, Christmas shop, flower shop, arts and crafts. There will also be an auction from 2 p.m. until. Everyone is invited to come and see the many things.

Tee's Chapel WA Sponsors Bazaar

Tee's Chapel Woman's Auxiliary will sponsor a bazaar and bake sale on Saturday, November 5, from 8 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., at the Old Barn Flea Market across from the Gerold Plant on Highway 301 near Smithfield.

Revival in Progress At Sweet Gum Grove

Revival services are in progress through November 4, at Sweet Gum Grove Church, Route 1, Stokes. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The guest evangelist is the Rev. Ron Braxton of Winterville, North Carolina. There is special singing each night. A nursery is being provided.

The pastor, the Rev. David Hill, and the congregation cordially invite everyone to attend the remainder of the services.

Central District Woman's Auxiliary to Have Study Course

The Woman's Auxiliaries of the Central District will be having a study course on November 10, at 7:30 p.m. The study course will be held at the Marlboro Church in Farmville. The study course will be centered on the book "All Things Are Made Possible Through Prayer" by Charles Allen. All women are encouraged to attend this inspiring program.

Fall Bazaar at Rose of Sharon Church

The Woman's Auxiliary of Rose of Sharon Church will be having a fall bazaar on November 5, 1983, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The bazaar will be held on the church grounds one mile south of Bear Grass on rural route 1001. There will be many things to take advantage of during this bazaar—homemade food and candies, Christmas crafts, a YFA car wash, a yard sale, and many more things.

Bible Study at Core Creek Church

A Bible study at Core Creek Church, Cove City, will be held on the Book of Ephesians, the first and third Sunday nights in November (November 6 and 20). The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. Rudene Kennedy will bring the study. Everyone is invited to attend. This can be counted as one of the study courses in the auxiliary work.

Loyalty Sunday and Revival at Daniels Chapel Church

Loyalty Sunday will be observed at Daniels Chapel Church, Route 3, Wilson, on Sunday, November 6, 1983. The Sunday school will begin at 10 a.m. The morning worship will begin at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Earl H. Glenn, pastor, bringing the message. A special "loyalty" offering will be received during the service.

Revival services will begin Sunday evening at 7 p.m. and will continue through Thursday, November 10. Services Monday through Thursday will be at 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Clarence F. Bowen of Ayden will be the visiting evangelist. He will be assisted by the pastor. Special nights will be observed and special singing will be featured each night. A nursery will be provided for families with small children.

The pastor and congregation extend a warm welcome to all members and friends to attend.

Missionary Conference To Be Held

The Second Annual Faith Promise Missionary Conference will be held at Westside Church, at 1205 Lynn Drive, Kinston, beginning Friday night, November 4, at 7:30 p.m. and will climax Sunday, November 6, with the 7 p.m. service. Special speakers for the weekend will be the Rev. C. F. Bowen, long-time member of the Foreign Missions Board, now honorary member for life; the Rev. Ed Miles, former short-term missionary to the Philippines; Willem van der Plas, missionary appointee; and the Rev. Harold Jones, director-treasurer of the Foreign Missions Board. A fellowship supper at 6 p.m. Saturday will be held at the church with the service beginning at 7:30 p.m. During the 9:45 a.m. Sunday school hour, Mrs. Adaline Gray will direct a missions skit, followed by recitations and reading led by Miss Sandra Baker. The Sunday evening service will feature the tabulation of Faith Promises for the coming year.

The pastor, the Rev. Wayne King, and the church invite all interested persons to join them for as many of these services as possible.

Central Conference to Meet

The 235th Annual Session of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will meet on Thursday, November 10, 1983, with the First Church in Rocky Mount. All churches should send their proper delegates to the Conference. The host church will provide

barbecue/chicken plate for lunch at the cost of $3.85.

The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration of Ministers and Delegates
10:00—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Donald Ribeiro
10:05—Welcome, the Rev. Mark Hobbs
—Response, Mrs. Rebecca Davenport
—Moderator's Message, the Rev. C. L. Patrick
—Roll Call of Churches and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
—Short Business Session
10:30—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—State Convention, the Rev. Gary Bailey
—Free Will Baptist Press, Mr. Cliff Gray
—Superannuation, the Rev. Donald Fader
—Church Finance Association, the Rev. Walter Reynolds
—Mount Olive College, Dr. Burkette Raper
—Cragmont Assembly, the Rev. John Williams
—Children's Home, the Rev. Bobby Taylor
—Retirement Homes, the Rev. Walter Sutton
—Foreign Missions, the Rev. Harold Jones
—Home Missions, the Rev. Charles Crisp
—Board of Ordination, the Rev. Harry Grubbs
11:30—Message, the Rev. R. P. Harris
12:00—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Scripture and Prayer, Mr. Frank Thigpen
1:05—Report of Obituary Committee
—Business Session
—Report of Credentials Committee
—Report of Executive Committee
—Report of Central Conference Missions Board
—Report of Trustees
—Report of Historian
—Report of Temperance and Resolution Committees
—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Nomination Committee
—Final Business
—Adjournment

Directions to the church: Coming from Pinetops, follow Highway 43 until one reaches Cokey Road. Take Cokey Road and the church is located at 406 Cokey Road. The church will be on the left.

Faith Church of Leland to Have Revival Services

Faith Church of Leland is having a week of revival services, November 14 through November 18. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The location of the church is on Old Highway 74 and 76. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Charles Crisp. There will be special singing each night. The pastor, the Rev. Roger Heath, invites the public to attend these services.

Griffin Brotherhood To Have Meeting

The Griffin Brotherhood, which includes all former ministerial students at Mount Olive College, will hold its semi-annual meeting at the Kountry Kitchen, Wilson, North Carolina, on Friday, November 4, at 7 p.m.

Spouses are invited to attend this dinner meeting.

The speaker will be Dr. Michael Pelt, chairman of the Department of Religion at the College. His topic will be "The Education of the Ministry in the Free Will Baptist Church."

Flags Presented at St. Paul Church

Lonnie Lamb, George Pierce, and Joe Griffith

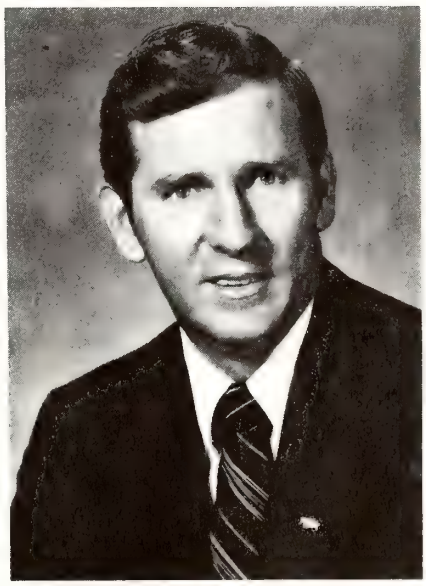
The American and Christian Flags were presented to the St. Paul Church in Elizabeth City during recent homecoming services. Mr. Lonnie Lamb represented his family as he presented the gift to honor the memory of his father, Jimmy Lamb. Mr. Lamb was an active deacon, finance committee chairman, former Sunday school superintendent and teacher in the church.

Trustee George Pierce received the gift and offered the flags to Pastor Joe Griffith for dedication.

Stoney Creek Church Schedules Revival

Revival services will be held at Stoney Creek Church near Goldsboro, November 14-18. The Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor of Marlboro Church and Secretary of the North Carolina State Convention, will be the guest speaker. The Rev. Gary Bailey is the pastor. Services begin each evening at 7:30 Everyone is invited.

Bobby Brown to Be Evangelist



The Rev. Bobby Brown

The Rev. Bobby Brown, pastor of Shiloh Church, Pinetown, will be the evangelist at St. Paul Church in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, November 14-18. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m. The pastor, the Rev. Joe Griffith, and the congregation extend a warm welcome to everyone to attend these services.

(Continued on Page 15)

Now is a good time to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

LINDA BAKER HAS HOSPITAL STAY

Linda Baker

For some time I had been having medical problems. In August, Fred had to go to Manila. The family and I went with him, so I could go to the doctor there. The doctor here on Palawan had not been able to help the problem. Therefore, it was needful to go to Manila to see a gynecologist.

After two weeks of treatment, the doctor recommended surgery. So I went into the hospital on Thursday, August 11. I had the operation that morning. I got along great, so the doctor let me leave the hospital on Friday afternoon.

My hospital stay was a pleasant one. The people were very nice. Most of the services were good. The hospital was clean and comfortable. I am glad to say my first hospital experience in the Philippines was a positive one.

The doctor wanted me to stay in Manila one week after the surgery for my recovery and a check-up. He told me during this time not to be walking up or down stairs or doing any work. Well, we were staying upstairs at a Christian guest house in Manila. So you know what that meant. Fred had to carry me up the stairs. The people at the guest house graciously consented to carrying my food upstairs that week. Fred was grateful for this.

Fred, Kim and Stevie took very good care of me that week. I got along great and recovered fine. It was a time to rest some, write letters and read books.

At my check-up, the doctor said I was doing fine, so I could go back to Palawan. I sure was thankful and happy.

Thank each of you so much for your prayers. At this time I am reminded of Romans 8:26, "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities; for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." At times like these in our lives, when there is not time to let you in the States know what is happening here, we are thankful the Spirit makes intercession on your behalf. Likewise, as we pray for you, not knowing specific needs, the Spirit makes intercession on our behalf. We are grateful for this ministry of the Spirit.

I am continuing to improve. We praise and thank God for the way I got along after my surgery and now. Please join us in praise and thanksgiving for God's protection and care.

Thanks so much for your love, concern and prayers. Keep on praying. Your prayers are so important.

Serving Christ,
Linda Baker

MABUHAY

"Mabuhay" is a Tagalog term meaning "long life." It is the traditional greeting used to welcome visitors into the Republic of the Philippines. The root word is "buhay." Buhay means life. "Buhay na walang hanggan" is eternal life or life without end. "Si Jesus ay buhay na walang hanggan" is simply stating the fact that Jesus is eternal life. Our prayer for you is along these lines of thought. We wish for you long lives, and more importantly eternal life in Jesus the Christ.

September 10-13, found Fred, Pastor Malinao, and me on the beautiful island of Cebu. While there we enjoyed attending the Philippine Association of Bible and Theological Schools. We gained new and valuable insights in the area of Christian Education and cross-cultural methods of instruction. Especially rewarding was the time for interaction with others involved in similar ministries with ours.

Charles Barnard

One pleasant opportunity afforded during this time was to be able to visit several interesting historical spots. We saw the memorial where history claims that Ferdinand Magellan planted a cross claiming the islands for God and Spain. We explored an old Spanish fort, Fort Santos. We watched with broken hearts as many bowed down before idols in the huge Taoist Temple built on the mountainside. And we purchased some fine guitars from the renowned Cebu guitar factories.

Jeff and I visited our brethren on Palawan, September 23-25. While there I met with the Board of Trustees and with the Administration of P.B.I. Many plans concerning the final design and function of

our new building were finalized. I am glad to report that the churches and school are experiencing growth and maturity. Naturally, Jeff and Stevie had a busy and fun-filled weekend.

Please pray for relief for Jackie's back problems. She has been referred to the doctor that is assigned to the Philippine Olympic team. He is presently out of the country, but should be back soon. Jackie has been attending language classes and fulfilling her household duties. She does this in spite of the tremendous pain.

Both Jackie and Shanna have had a toenail removed today, October 3, for the third time each. Shanna is just getting over a bout with tonsillitis. Jeff and I are fine. We do have to ward off headcolds, though.

Our language study is progressing. We have lost several days due to illness. We feel confident that we will be able to learn Tagalog in the time left for our study. We are now reading simple books and writing about daily events. We enjoy our particular method of learning because it centers around the gospel ministry. Again, we need a double portion of God's Spirit in order to keep up. Pray with us on this.

The children are out of school for a two-week mid-term break. We have been able to enjoy a few short sightseeing outings with them. Over the weekend we visited the main city park, a display of 2,600-year-old Chinese terracotta warriors, and the ballet "Sleeping Beauty." The cost of each was less than $1.50 each person. We wish we had more time to see the landmarks and scenery of this beautiful island country.

Many of you have expressed a concern for our safety in your recent letters. This has resulted in large part from the assassination of the former senator and opposition leader Ninoy Aquino. True, there have been several riots and demonstrations throughout the Manila area since his death. And we are more than a little concerned. Right now it seem that most of these events are kept pretty well in hand. We do not feel that they pose any immediate or direct threat to us. We must just be careful to remain neutral and try to stay as far away from the rallies as we can.

I cannot state emphatically what the future holds for this country. I do know that God can and will use whatever results for His glory. My greatest concern is that Christians everywhere will join together in prayer that the open doors to the gospel message will not be closed. The main opposition groups are closely affiliated with the Communist Party. One powerful opposition group is the Roman Catholic Church. Amazingly, both groups seems to be seeking the same goals. Pray for the present administration as they try to keep peace and order in the streets.

I respectfully submit the following items to be placed on your prayer lists:

1. Healing for Jackie's back
2. The children's education
3. Language study
4. Palawan Bible Institute
5. Finances for the new building
6. The Baker family
7. Our brethren
8. The Philippine government
9. Open doors to the gospel message and its messengers
10. The salvation of lost souls

In His Debt,
Charles I. Barnard

CHANGE OF PHONE NUMBER

Willem van der Plas announces that he now has a change of phone number. It is 249-1255. His address is the same.

YOUTH DIRECTOR NEEDED

The Black Jack Church is actively seeking an individual to employ as Youth Director for the church. The Youth Director needs to be an individual divinely called to work in a youth ministry. He/she should ideally have had some formal training in youth work and formal training or experience in music so as to be able to help develop the musical talents of the youth at Black Jack Church. He/she must be a fundamental Bible-believing Christian who totally embraces the doctrines of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination.

An application for this position can be secured from Black Jack Church in care of Dr. Cedric D. Pierce Jr. or Harry Allen Jones Jr. (Route 3, Box 325, Greenville, North Carolina 27834).

All Free Will Baptists are urged to pray daily that God will be glorified and guide the people at Black Jack through the development of this special Youth Program at Black Jack Church.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. O. B. Jones announces that he now has a new address. It is Route 3, Box 123, Newport, North Carolina 28570. His old address was 108 Hope Lodge Street, Tarboro, North Carolina. Please note the change.

COMING EVENTS

November—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Children's Home Month

November 2—Church Finance Board of Directors Meeting, Headquarters Building, Ayden

November 22—Board of Trustees, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, 9:30 a.m.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE VISITATION DAYS

We Have Two Days Designed For High School Juniors and Seniors
Saturday, November 5 and Friday, November 11: Schedule for Both Days

10:00 a.m.	Arrival Registration Refreshments Campus Tours
11:00	Information Meeting Academic Opportunities Student Activities Admissions Procedure
12:15 p.m.	Lunch Music by MOC Singers (Saturday) Music by Concert Choir (Friday) Visits With Faculty Financial Aid Information
1:30	Auditions for MOC Singers and New Creations (Saturday Only) Interviews for Honor Scholarships (Friday and Saturday)

Realize your finest ambitions at MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE!

PAUL PALMER COURSE AT VERONA CHURCH

The *Book of Revelation* will be taught by Rudene Kennedy at Verona Church each Tuesday, 7:30-9:30 p.m., beginning November 8, and continuing through December 27.

The cost of the course is $20 and it is open to all interested persons. It may be taken for or without Institute credit.

The Paul Palmer Institute of Mount Olive College offers courses throughout eastern North Carolina in biblical studies and other areas of interest to pastors, Sunday school teachers and other Christian workers. For information on scheduling a course in your area, contact Frank R. Harrison, Director of Church Relations, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (phones: office 658-2502; home 658-9363).

COLLEGE DINNERS

Both attendance and gift support are up at the college dinners. This continued support is essential for the development of the educational goal of becoming a four-year college.

All friends of the college are invited to attend the dinner in their area. The schedule for the following two weeks includes:

Washington, Tyrrell, Martin, Pasquotank and Chowan Counties, Thursday, November 3, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Union School, Roper. David Cahoon is chairman of the dinner. The goal is $6,225.

Carteret County, Saturday, November 5, 6:30 p.m., East Carteret High School near Beaufort. Reginald

Styron is chairman of the dinner. The goal is $8,300.

Johnston-Wake Counties, Monday, November 7, 7 p.m., Everett Chapel Church (Spiritual Life Building), Clayton. Philip Wood and Donald Coates are co-chairmen of the dinner. The goal is $25,200.

Pitt County, Tuesday, November 8, 7 p.m., D. H. Conley High School near Greenville. Mrs. Dot Dail is chairman of the dinner. The goal is $15,800.

Craven County, Monday, November 14, 7 p.m., West Craven Middle School near New Bern. Miss Marice DeBruhl is chairman of the dinner. The goal is $11,275.

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties, Tuesday, November 15, 7 p.m., Midway School near Spivey's Corner. C. Felton Godwin is the chairman of the dinner. The goal is $9,000.

Pamlico County, November 19, 6 p.m., Camp Vandemere, Vandemere. M. N. (Tom) Caroon is chairman of the dinner. The goal is $6,200.

CHURCH VISITS BY COLLEGE PERSONNEL

Sunday, November 6

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president, will be the Homecoming speaker at Spring Hill Church, Wayne County. He will speak at the 11 a.m. worship service. The Rev. William Dale is pastor.

Calvin Mercer, professor of religion, will speak at Little Rock Church, Lucama, at the 11 a.m. worship service. The Rev. De Wayne Eakes is the pastor.

VISITS BY MOC ADMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVES

Representatives from the Mount Olive College Admissions Office are visiting in North Carolina high schools during the fall Post Secondary Opportunity Sessions. Students are invited to talk with the Mount Olive College representative about their college plans.

Representatives are scheduled at the following times and places:

Wesley Beddard, November 3, Pitt County, D. H. Conley High Schol, 8:45 a.m.; J. H. Rose High School, 10:15 a.m.; North Pitt High School, 1:30 p.m.

Don Hargrove, November 3, Beaufort County, Washington, Mattamuskeet, Aurora, Bath, Chocowinity, John A. Wilkinson High Schools and Pungo Christian Academy at Washington High School, 6:30 p.m.

Wesley Beddard, November 4, Pitt County, Farmville Central High School, 9:00 a.m.

Wesley Beddard, November 9, Brunswick County, North, South, and West Brunswick High Schools at North Brunswick High School, 7:00 p.m.

Wesley Beddard, November 10, New Hanover County, John T. Hoggard High School, 8:50 a.m., New Hanover High School, 10:50 a.m.; Emsley A. Laney High School, 2:00 p.m.

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 5)

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Union Number 1	$ 30
Oak Grove	994
Union Number 2	100
Total Pee Dee Conference	$ 1,124

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

East Rockingham	$ 20
Heritage	162
Highland Pines	119
Mount Olive	100
House of Prayer	100
Wayside Chapel	50
Total Piedmont Conference	$ 552

TOE RIVER CONFERENCE

Roaring Creek	$ 132
Curtis Creek	39
Poplar Church	60
Odom's Chapel	138
Total Toe River Conference	$ 369

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Black Jack Grove	$ 400
Calvary	175
Everett Chapel	227
Fellowship	25
Flood's Chapel	150
Free Spirit Mission	65
Fremont	233
Free Union	20
Friendship	400
Holly Springs	600
Kenly	645
Little Rock	130
Marsh Swamp	295
Memorial Chapel	20
Micro	135
Milbournie	495
Mount Zion (Nash)	22
Union Number 1	165
Union Number 2	35
First Western Sunday School Convention	66

(Continued on Page 15)

Dear Pastors and Laymen:

On November 12, 1983, at 7:30 p.m. at Shiloh Church, in the Albemarle Conference near Pinetown, North Carolina, we will be having our North Carolina State Layman's League Convention.

We invite you to come and be with us. This is for all churches throughout the Original Free Will Baptist denomination, whether you have an established Layman's League, Men's Fellowship, or Brotherhood, or not. Please come and be with us. We have several items of business to claim our attention, and we need every man in our denomination to come and help us.

If you do not have a Layman's League started in your church, this will be a good time to come and get some help in starting one. Pastors, you do not know what you are missing if you do not have a Layman's League. We encourage you to come and let us help your church get started.

I look forward to seeing you at Shiloh on November 12, 1983.

Yours in Christian love,
Henry P. Beaman, *President*
Floyd Newsome, *Secretary*

DATE—November 12, 1983
TIME—7:30 p.m.
PLACE—Shiloh Church

Shiloh Church is located one-half mile east of Pinetown on rural road 1530. There will be signs at Pinetown to direct you to the church.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 2, 3

WHY GLADSTONE WAS JOYOUS

Early one morning William Gladstone was at his desk at Number 10 Downing Street, London. A timid knock on the door called him from preparing an important speech he was to deliver that day in Parliament. Standing at the door was a little boy whose friendship Gladstone had won by little deeds of kindness. The boy said, "My brother is dying. Won't you please come and show him the way to Heaven?" Leaving his important work for the most important work any Christian can do, Gladstone went to the bedside of the dying boy. In a matter of moments the boy was rejoicing in his newly found Saviour! Returning to his office, Gladstone wrote at the bottom of the speech he had been preparing: "I am the happiest man in London today!" He had been the human instrumentality, in the hands of God, to lead a boy from darkness into the wondrous light and liberty of Christ.

A new name was written down in glory when the boy's soul passed from death to life in Christ.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 4, 5

ALERT TO OPPORTUNITY

Harry always participated in the different activities of the church. Often he sang special musical numbers with others and alone. He professed to be a Christian, and it wasn't mine to question his sincerity.

One day Harry was practicing a solo with a pianist. The emphasis of the solo was that one can never know peace until he knows Jesus. Suddenly Harry sighed, "How I wish I knew the peace Jesus gives!" The pianist was a fine Christian girl who was always alert to win others for Jesus. She said, "Harry, you may know that peace, in ever-deepening blessedness, by asking Jesus to come into your heart and make your life anew!"

Then and there, Harry passed from the low plane of a mere profession onto the jubilant plane of full assurance. He had passed from death into newness of life in Christ.

I remember no one sin that my conscience doth so much accuse and judge me for as for doing so little for the saving of souls; and for not dealing with the lost ones more fervently and earnestly for their conversion.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 6, 7

OLD TRUTHS GIVEN NEW DRESSES

Someone asked a young man, "Have you ever been saved?" A puzzled, questioning look came upon the face of the young man. He became thoughtful, and then he said, "Oh, yes, sometime ago I came pretty close to drowning, and a friend, hearing my frantic cry, swam to my rescue and brought me safely to shore!"

Wouldn't it have been better for the personal worker to have asked, "Have you ever asked Christ to come into your life and make you one of God's children?"

We are living in a world that is very different from the world in which prior generations of Christians lived. Religious terms and phraseology are not understandable to many worldly people, but are like an unknown tongue. Ask a run-of-the-mill individual on the street, "Have you been born again?" and he will not have the remotest idea what you are talking about.

I am not pleading for a new gospel, nor am I remotely suggesting that we throw overboard any of God's changeless Word. I only say that we must express eternal truths in words intelligible to the persons whom we are trying to win for Jesus, or else we will not reach them.

Spiritually hungry individuals will listen intently if we will explain the might and power of Christ to them. They need to know of Christ's willingness to transform lives and give peace to troubled hearts.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 8, 9

WHERE HAST THOU GLEANED TODAY?

Where the population is densest over the world, the harvest of the fields is hand-reaped. In India, China, Japan, the islands of the sea, wheat, rice, and other harvests are garnered in the hard, back-breaking way—by hand. Not since the days of Ruth has this method of gathering the yield of the fields been changed in some places.

Souls are best reaped in this way—hand reaped. They must be individually won and individually nurtured. Souls do not come to Christ

en masse. Even in "mass evangelism," souls must come to God personally, and must have the personal touch.

Henry Ward Beecher once said, "The longer I live, the more confidence I have in those sermons where one man *is the congregation and* one man *is the minister; where there is no question as to who is meant when the preacher says: 'Thou art the man!' "*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 10, 11

DR. POLING ALERTED

Some years ago, Dr. Daniel Poling returned home after an absence of a few days. He entered a taxicab. As he rode along, the taxi driver, who did not know Dr. Poling, asked, "Have you heard about the boys who are adrift in a rowboat, and who at latest reports have not been found?" "No," replied Dr. Poling, seemingly not too much concerned. Then he added, "The boys should have been more careful." After a moment, he asked, "Do you know the names of the boys?" "No, not all of them. I know only one. His name is Poling." Instantly Dr. Poling became all attention as it dawned upon him that one of the lost youths was his own boy!

Oh, that we could feel deeply moved toward every lost soul, taking each upon our hearts, and doing everything to bring him to Christ.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 12, 13

THIRTY YEARS A SILENT CHRISTIAN

A businessman said to Billy Graham, "Paul has been in my employ for some thirty years, and I have never said one thing to him about his becoming a Christian." "Oh, the shame of it!" exclaimed Graham. "Let's get down on our knees and ask God's forgiveness for the failure!" After prayer, Graham said, "When you go to your place of business in the morning, go immediately to Paul and speak to him about his soul. Ask him to invite the Saviour to come into his life and make it anew." "I will," said the man. Going to the office of Paul the next morning, he walked back and forth—speechless. Paul asked, "Jim, you are very nervous. What's the trouble?" "I am nervous, for the thing I know I ought to do isn't easy." Jim answered, "What is it?" asked Paul. Finally, with great effort, Jim said, "I want to talk to you about your soul. I want you to give yourself to Jesus Christ." There was silence for a moment. Then, as tears welled in his eyes, Paul said, "For years I have wanted you to talk to me about my soul. I will ask Jesus to come into my life and make it anew. I will go to church with you Sunday and publicly confess my faith in Him."

Evangelism is the heart-winning plea of Moses, "Oh, this people have sinned . . . yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written."

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Scripture Reading—Galatians 1, 2

HOW THEY REACHED THE UNREACHED

The need of reaching the unsaved and unchurched multitudes of a great city in Texas became a matter of prayerful concern to some Christian laymen. They decided to conduct Bible classes in homes in different neighborhoods. And God blessed their efforts.

A teacher from a theological seminary taught a group in one of the homes. On the first evening he saw one of the women smoking cigarettes. On her lap lay an open Bible upon which fell the cigarette ashes. As he observed this, he almost exploded. "What barefaced irreverence!" he said to himself. Then a Voice seemed to say to him: "Are you better than your Lord? Did He not eat and mingle with publicans and sinners? Did He not come to call sinners to repentance?" As he thought upon these searching questions, the feeling of self-righteous indignation gave place to Christlike pity and compassion for her. Before long she as well as others became changed creatures.

The following taunting statement by an atheist made William Booth a zealous Salvationist: "If I believed what you Christians say you believe about a coming judgment, and that impenitent rejectors of Christ will be lost, I would crawl on my bare knees on crushed glass all over London, warning men, night and day, to flee for refuge from the coming day of wrath!"

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

NAME OMITTED

The Rev. R. P. Harris's name was inadvertently omitted as author of the article "Man Is a Sinful Being," published October 19 in *The Free Will Baptist,* Page 18.

For November 6

GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE

Lesson Text: Psalm 103:1-12; Ephesians 1:5-10
Memory Verse: Psalm 103:8

I. INTRODUCTION

Can you believe we have a lesson on "God's Steadfast Love" without including in the text 1 John 4:8, which says, "God is love"? This text does not even include the familiar and well-loved John 3:16. In the *King James Version,* the word *love* does not appear at all in our printed text, though we do see both *loving-kindness* and *the beloved.*

Still our lesson title is appropriate. God's love is made evident in what God does. In fact, the title is drawn from the *Revised Standard Version* of the Bible, in which "steadfast love" appears three times in our text from Psalm 103. The *King James Version* has *loving-kindness* in Verse 4 and *mercy* in Verses 8 and 11.

Steadfast love, loving-kindness, mercy—why is the same Hebrew word translated in different ways? Because this wonderful Hebrew word has so many shades of meaning that no English word can represent it exactly. The *King James Version* alone uses eight different terms to translate it: mercy, kindness, loving-kindness, goodness, favor, merciful kindness, godliness, and pity. The *King James Version* most often uses *mercy.* The *American Standard Version* most often makes it "loving-kindness." The *Revised Standard Version* prefers "steadfast love." The *New International Version* most frequently uses "love."

The Hebrew word is *hesed.* A famous Hebrew scholar, Gesenius, thinks it originally meant eagerness, zeal. As used in the Old Testament, it means an earnest goodwill, a love that is eager to help others and therefore is expressed in helpful action. God's *hesed* toward us is seen as He provides for our needs, as He protects us from things that would hurt us, as He guides us, and as He forgives us. We can see some of these in our text. (Of course, zeal can turn in the wrong direction. In two Old Testament passages *hesed* obviously has a bad meaning; it is translated *a wicked thing* in one place and *a reproach* in another. But for the purposes of this lesson let's ignore those and concentrate on love and helpfulness. Such is God's *hesed.)*

Steadfast is a good word to describe God's helpful love. "I am the Lord, I change not," He says (Malachi 3:6). "The [*hesed*] of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him," sings David (Psalm 103:17). "Surely goodness and [*hesed*] shall follow me all the days of my life," he writes in Psalm 23:6. David's sins were as scarlet, yes; but his repentance was sincere and God's *hesed* reached him still: "I said, I will confess my transgression unto the Lord; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin" (Psalm 32:5).

The *hesed* of God was evident when He "planted a garden eastward in Eden" for the delight of Adam (Genesis 2:8). It will be seen in the city where they need no sun (Revelation 21:23). Through all the ages of history and all the width of earth it is steadfast, unfailing. This is illustrated when we see His *hesed* bright in David's song written in Palestine about 1000 B.C., and no less bright in Paul's letter sent from Rome to Ephesus over a thousand years later.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

The Hebrew word which is translated as "lovingkindness" or "steadfast love" is "hesed." It is a word of such deep meaning that no one word in English can say everything it means. It is God's love which is forbearing, longsuffering, patient, merciful, and forgiving. It is the love that sustains us, that keeps us in fellowship with God, and which assures us of God's continuing forgiveness.—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

Theologians used to have a pat phrase, "for His glory." That explained everything. Whatever God did, from creation to the damning of sinners, was for His glory. That is true, but it is not the whole truth. God shaped creation so that what is for His glory is also for our good and our glory. Truly His love for us is steadfast, before the world was, and now, and to eternity.

Man's primary duty is to love God with heart and soul and mind and strength (Mark 12:29, 30). All human history shows that man's love has been unsteadfast while God's has been unwavering. This lesson calls each one of us to examine his own living. How can my life this week show a steadfast love for God, who has crowned me "with loving-kindness and tender mercies"?—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

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EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

I. **Blood Type:** Are you a Christian? Have you been baptized? Are you a member of a church?

II. **Red Blood Cells** (oxygen carriers that prevent anemia)
   A. Devotional life
      1. How meaningful is Sunday morning worship to you?
      2. How meaningful is private worship to you?
      3. Do you feel that your relationship with God is growing?
   B. Intellectual life
      1. Are your doubts and questions being answered?
      2. Do you feel you know the Bible? What help do you need?
      3. Do you understand basic concepts of theology—justification, regeneration, sanctification, and so on? What help do you need?
      4. In what areas of your intellectual life (explaining your faith, practical applications, Bible knowledge, and so on) are you strong? In which are you weak?

III. **White Blood Cells** (disease fighters for inner spiritual cleansing and renewing)
   A. Do you feel you are a more accepting, forgiving, loving person than you have been?
   B. Do you feel you are stronger against temptations? Expand.
   C. Do you feel your self-esteem is healthy?
   D. Do you see yourself becoming more pure in motives, thoughts, and life-style?
   E. Do you find yourself usually encouraging others or competing with them?
   F. Do you occasionally tear another person down in jest or anger? What triggers this?
   G. How is the Holy Spirit making you whole?

IV. **Platelets** (blood clotters that stanch the wounds of living in a hurting world)
   A. Have you found someone to help bear the burdens of life?
   B. Do you find you can share your inner joys, hopes, and dreams? Expand.
   C. When someone in jest or anger tears you down, how do you handle it?
   D. What happens to you when you fail?
   E. What happens to you when you succeed?

V. **Blood Pressure** (hypertension and exercise)
   A. Are you able to turn your finances over to God and tithe, trusting Him to supply?
   B. Are you able to turn your vocation over to God to use you how and where He wants to?
   C. Are you learning to let go of the desire for things?
   D. Are you able to explain to others in the community why you are a Christian?
   E. How much are you concerned for those who are less fortunate, wanting to share with them the gospel and a helping hand?

VI. **Tired Blood** (from imbalanced spiritual diet)
   A. Is your life balanced? How do you deal with pressure? Do you have regular time for family, recreation, personal growth, and so on?
   B. Do you feel you have a balance of worship, study, and service to stay in shape?

(This checkup has been adapted with permission from a work done by Dennis L. Wayman, a pastor in Santa Barbara, California.)

LOOKING AT SHERRON ACRES CHURCH, DURHAM

(Excerpts from the diary of the late John D. Currie.)

February 16, 1941—Morning Service

Service began by singing the doxology followed by prayer led by the pastor. The church covenant was read to all who had joined the church in the past several months. A short but good sermon was preached by the pastor. His subject was "Preach the Word." Many points in regard to prohibition were brought out. Attendance was 115.

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 11)

Youth Fellowship	75
New Sandy Hill	100
People's Chapel	150
Pine Level, First	449
Pleasant Grove	740
Piney Grove	30
Pleasant Hill	20
Pleasant Plain	250
Rains Cross Roads	50
Rosebud	65
Sherron Acres	525
Spring Hill	400
Saint Mary's	60
Stancil's Chapel	136
Stoney Creek	75
Union Chapel	150
Union Grove	183
Unity (Wilson)	175
Wilson, First	1,359
Mount Zion (Wilson)	105
Oak Grove	186
Total Western Conference	$ 9,587
OTHER CHURCH REVENUE	
Statewide Free Will Baptist	$ 708
TOTAL REVENUE	**$37,163**

MEMORIAL GIFTS
(July-September, 1983)

IN MEMORY OF

Hugh Sasser by Piney Grove Church (Western Conference)

Percy Woodard by Cathleen Slade

Thomas Smith by Mr. and Mrs. Sonny Scott

David and Madora Day by Earl C. Day

Margaret Cooper by Parthenia Goulding

Charles Howard Briley by William A. Crandall

Allen Faulkner by Mr. and Mrs. William Faulkner

Clarence J. Wade by Mrs. Jerry Brown

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 7)

Upcoming Event for Trinity Church

Trinity Church of Clayton will be having a bazaar on Saturday, November 5. It will be held in the fellowship hall of the church from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be crafts, baked goods, and jellies for sale. There will be sausage and ham biscuits for breakfast. Hot dogs and other goodies will be available for lunch.

The Rev. Lloyd F. Hargis extends a warm welcome to everyone.

Why Wait?

Keeping up with what is happening among Original Free Will Baptists is not always an easy task, but it is one we enjoy. With each and every printing of *The Free Will Baptist,* we try to provide information about meetings; details of work being accomplished by denominational enterprises, institutions, and auxiliaries; as well as inspirational materials which will challenge you to greater service. Every Free Will Baptist family should be receiving *The Free Will Baptist.* Why don't you subscribe today? Fill out the form below and mail it to the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Box 158, Ayden, NC 28513-0158.

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Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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Editorial

We Are More Than Prairie Chickens!

"An American Indian tells about a brave who found an eagle's egg and put it into the nest of a prairie chicken. The eaglet hatched with the brood of chicks and grew up with them.

"All his life, the changeling eagle, thinking he was a prairie chicken, did what the chickens did. He scratched in the dirt for seeds and insects to eat. He clucked and cackled. And he flew in a brief thrashing of wings and flurry of feathers no more than a few feet off the ground. After all, that's how prairie chickens were supposed to fly.

"Years passed. And the changeling eagle grew very old. One day, he saw a magnificent bird far above him in the cloudless sky. Hanging with graceful majesty in the powerful wind currents, it soared with scarcely a beat of its strong golden wings.

" 'What a wonderful bird!' said the changeling eagle to his neighbor. 'What is it?'

" 'That's an eagle—the chief of birds,' the neighbor clucked. 'But don't give it a second thought. You could never be like him.'

"So the changeling eagle never gave it another thought. And it died thinking it was a prairie chicken" (John Catoir, *What a Day This Can Be).*

Many of us are in a situation much like that changeling eagle. We feel as though we were created to perform greater tasks than those we have performed to date. But for some reason we do not choose to walk the path of excellence.

We say, "It's much easier to 'scavenge for insects than to soar among the heavens. It's so much easier to accept the status quo than to venture out.' " Of course it is. It is also easy to take long lunch hours, attend seminars and read books on "how to do it," say we are going to do differently—and accomplish nothing, because we are not willing to "sacrifice" what it takes. (I really prefer the term **commit** to **sacrifice,** but others feel awestricken by it. Maybe they should be!)

All of us have watched dramatic movies about mountain climbing—we have seen climbers inch their way up into the heavens, grasping and reaching for every little crevice of rock which in turn gives them a new footing to move even higher. We have all said, "Wow, I could never do that!" But mountains are not the only challenges we approach this way. How about our everyday life? Rather than facing tough situations head on, we give up. But remember, we have all conquered some things—we have all given up the comfort of the common plateau and headed toward greater heights—at least I hope we have. (Perhaps we just feel uneasy about being the best or giving our best. Perhaps we just don't care.)

(Continued on Page 13)

Jesus Christ, the Living Word of God

(Continued from Last Week)

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

There is no one who does share or who can share His relationship to God. He is not *a* Son of God. He is *the* Son of God.

To call Him that is to affirm that Jesus is thoroughly divine. His relationship to God is not one which is in any way achieved. It is a given in His very nature!

Jesus' relationship to God is not incidental. It is essential. It is not an acquired thing. It is His by His very being.

Thus, the relationship is not alterable. It is permanent.

His countrymen knew that they were in the presence of an entirely new kind of Holy Man. He was never petulant, never impatient, never jealous. He was never suspicious. He was never in a hurry, never uncertain. He never vacillated. He never took advantage of a person. He was never proud, never haughty. He never forced Himself on people. He never speculated about truth. He was truth.

He lived with a God-consciousness never before known. He was completely God-possessed.

He never argued or debated the health or the existence of God with anybody, anywhere, anytime. For Him, God was not a definition or a syllogism. For Him, God was a presence, a Father. God was more real to Jesus than the main artery in His neck.

He lived a thoroughly blameless life, yet was tempted as all of us are tempted without sinning.

The pages of the New Testament are sprinkled with the confessions of those who detected in Him an amazing new quality of life. In His presence Peter said, "Depart from me for I am a sinful man." Dying beside Him, the thief said, "We indeed die justly, but this man has done nothing worthy of death." Dreaming about Him, Pilate's wife told her husband, "Have nothing to do with this just man." Realizing the depths of His betrayal, Judas said, "I have sinned in that I have betrayed innocent blood."

The matchless quality of the divinity of Jesus Christ has no parallel on this earth—nor does the matchless quality of His own self-understanding.

He stood before the best and the worst of His generation affirming:

"I am the Light of the World."
"I am the Door."
"I am the Bread of Life."
"I am the Good Shepherd."
"I am the Resurrection."
"I am the Lord of the Sabbath."
"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."
"Before Abraham was, I am."

In Him, alone, these claims are not out of reason or out of place. He is totally entitled to them.

We use certain adverbs: "usually," "generally," "perhaps," "maybe." Jesus' adverb was "Verily."

The ultimate clue to His relation to the Father was His great love. Never before had a man cared like He cared. He always had time for people—all types of people. He identified Himself with his times. He was approachable. He did not show the world a clinched fist, but an outstretched hand.

He did not build walls. He built windows. He did not erect barriers, but bridges. He did not separate people behind such barbed wire entanglements as society, class, race, economics, politics.

He dragged the sorrows and the hopes of His generation across His great heart. He met people at the point of their need—at midnight, it was a Hebrew scholar; at noonday, it was a fallen woman; in the afternoon, it was a group of the hungry and the unemployed; in early morning, it was a company of floundering fishermen. Across His way fell the shadows of the limp, the lame, the halt, the blind; and He healed them.

He broke up a funeral procession at Nain. He shattered a graveyard at Bethany. He cared

(Turn the Page)

for people whom no one else dared care for. He loved persons who were hard to love.

He saw a chance for people whom no one else gave a chance. He touched the untouchables, reached the unreachables, taught the unteachables, and proceeded to make a somebody out of every barefooted nobody who dared to follow after Him.

He was a LIFE-CHANGER!

Jesus Christ died saying in effect: "You can break my bones and you can drain the blood from my veins, but you cannot stop me from loving you."

All this, and the record is: "He came unto His own and His own received Him not."

Oh, there were positive reactions to Him—He had His moments. Little children followed Him. The aged found comfort when He came. The sick felt their hearts leap within them when He approached their beds. But for the most part, the three years of His public ministry were filled with controversy and adversity.

It startles us to think that one so good should come to an end so cruel. Hardly had He begun His work when the unprincipled, expediency-serving religious leaders turned against Him. They laughed at Him, called Him a psychopath, and determined to rid the land of Him at all costs.

You see, Jesus Christ did not please many of His countrymen. In time, they killed Him!

Why not?

He offended the rich. He told them that they did not possess their wealth, rather their wealth possessed them.

He offended the poor. He told them that poverty should remind them that life is not guaranteed, and He refused to turn His Kingdom into either a soup line or a bakery.

He offended the Zealots. He refused to embrace their politics and would not let them use Him as any national flag for their bloody insurrection.

He offended the Sadducees, wealthy, landowning country gentry. They thought surely He was subversive—He put so little stock in their precious establishment.

He offended the Pharisees—puritan patriots, self-appointed watchdogs of orthodoxy. Most of His attitudes and actions appeared left-wing to them. He took such offense at all the fine boxes they had God in.

He offended the priests. He was daily unimpressed with their splendid temple and all the elaborate ways they had sought to fence God in on Zion Hill.

He offended the King, the Governor, and the Jewish high command. He called Herod "a fox." He threatened Pilate's job. He challenged the Sanhedrin's precious privilege.

So, Jesus died! The horror of His crucifixion lies not only in the fact that He died, but also in the fact of who killed Him. The leaders during that weekend of infamy were not from the underworld but from the Temple.

"The followers of the Way" perpetrated this crime. The pilgrims, the seekers after new bursts of truth, the sons and daughters of Abraham and Moses, David and Nehemiah, grown fat and muscle-bound had him put to death. So, this harbinger of hope, this leader of persons into spiritual springtime, the Saviour-God enfleshed was slain by would-be pilgrims who refused to advance. God's chosen voyagers missed the greatest trip of all.

Those who best knew God's Word preferred Him dead to alive!

So, after the mockery of a trial He was condemned to death, betrayed by those He trusted, abandoned by those He loved, and scourged by those He pitied.

After an outlaw's kind of execution, He who was born in a borrowed manger, who rode to triumph on a borrowed donkey, was laid away in a borrowed tomb. A great stone was rolled before His grave; upon it was set the imposing seal of Rome. Before it was a doubled guard. Everyone thought Golgotha was the end of the street preacher from Nazareth.

But God's miracles usually work silently. So, on the third day from amidst the quietness of the Arimathean's garden, there came a voice: "HE IS NOT HERE. HE IS RISEN."

Jesus was alive! Death had not tamed Him. Mary knew Him by His voice. Pilgrims to Emmaus knew Him by the way He broke bread. Disciples knew Him by the nail prints in His hands.

No grave was deep enough, no stone was heavy enough, no guard was alert enough, no seal was sturdy enough to keep Jesus Christ out of His world. In Him, time and eternity coalesced. Jesus Christ is *monogenes,* the unique Son of God.

4. *HE IS OUR LORD.*

The Jesus of history becomes the Christ of experience. In His birth is the significance of our births. In His life is the power for our lives. In His cross is our redemption. In His resurrection is our eternal hope.

At His birth wise men came from the east. At his death Greeks came from the west. In Jesus, east and west meet.

There He stands, Goliath-tall—the strong Lord of our lives—enough like us to make incarnation possible, enough unlike us to make incarnation necessary.

Jesus is called "Lord" almost 600 times in the New Testament. The word is "Kurios." It is the most universal title given to Him.

(Continued on Page 15)

IF THEY KILL ME . . .

submitted by Frank Ray Harrison

The writer of this letter, a Lebanese Christian, was killed at a checkpoint as he traveled to his village from Beirut. Although written in 1975, his words ring true today, as turmoil plagues his homeland, and his fellow Lebanese continue to yearn for true peace.

When I began to write this letter, it was as if someone else was speaking through me. Everybody's life in Lebanon, now, is at stake. And as I am a Lebanese, I imagined myself kidnapped and killed on my way to my village, Nabha. If this intuition comes true, I leave this letter for my family, for my fellow villagers and countrymen.

I say to my mother and sisters: don't be sad, don't overcry; this separation will be short and we will meet again. I'm sure we will meet in Heaven where eternal joy reigns. Don't worry, God's mercy will bring us together.

I have only one request: forgive from your heart those who killed me, and pray with me that my blood be a ransom—even if it is a sinner's blood—and an offering mixed with the blood of all the victims who fell from all political factions and religious communities, as the price for peace, love and brotherhood in this country.

Exhort people to love one another because of my death, and God will console and help you. Don't be afraid. I don't regret leaving this world, but I am sad because you'll be sad. Pray, pray and love your enemies.

To my fellow Lebanese I say: people from the same home have different ideas, but they don't hate each other. They get upset, but they don't fight each other. They hit, but they don't kill each other. Remember the days of understanding and love. Together we ate, together we drank, together we worked. Let us do away with days of intolerance and fighting.

Each of us should pray as his heart believes that God will put an end to this tragedy, and that outside powers will fail to carry out their plots. I sometimes think I will grieve, even in Heaven, if the situation remains like this in Lebanon.

"Forgive from your heart those who killed me."

For the funeral: Father Peter should conduct the service without much fuss. Not too many clergymen. And my soul will be happy if Abou-Khalil makes the coffin with wood from some old boxes. Let people forgive me without much mourning. Oh, people talk a lot, but don't mind what they say, because if they were truthful, they would not kill each other. Let the choir sing as much as they can; I feel better this way.

I am thinking about all of you while I am writing this letter. I haven't forgotten anyone: my friends, the one I love, my relatives, my buddies. But I don't want my emotions to overrun my Christian hope. I have found the suitable word: pray, fear and love God.□

Used by permission, *World Vision* (April, 1983)

ABS ISSUES CHALLENGE TO CHURCHGOERS

(ABS)—Every United States churchgoer is being challenged to give $3 on Bible Sunday in 1983, so that someone somewhere who now wants a Bible may have one.

This year will see the 69th continuous observance of Bible Sunday, an annual custom started by the American Bible Society in 1900 and observed throughout the nation every year since 1915.

Bible Sunday is set for November 20, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, although some churches will observe it on other days. It will climax ABS activity during 1983, which President Reagan has proclaimed the Year of the Bible.

In his proclamation, the President, recognizing the influence of the Bible throughout our nation's history, encouraged "all citizens, each in his or her own way, to reexamine and rediscover its priceless and timeless message."

In celebration of its own 167-year ministry of sharing God's Word with people around the world, "to meet their deepest needs," the American Bible Society has issued new words to a familiar old hymn tune.

As thousands of churches across America gather in worship this fall to celebrate ABS Bible Sunday, people of every age will raise their voices to sing "God's Word for All Earth's People."

It was composed to be sung to the well-loved tune of "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus."

The focus will be on the hunger of millions of men, women and children for God's Word in their own language, and the urgent need to fulfill it.

The author of "God's Word for All Earth's People" is the Rev. Dr. Barclay M. Newman, a noted Bible scholar and long a consultant to the Bible Societies on Scripture translation.

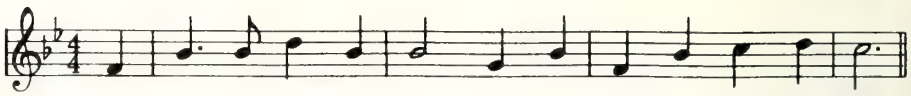
Dr. Newman was inspired to write the words while at a meeting of fellow Bible Society workers in Bangkok, Thailand, this summer.

From its very earliest days the sole purpose of ABS has been to make Scriptures easily accessible to everyone, without doctrinal note or comment, and without profit.

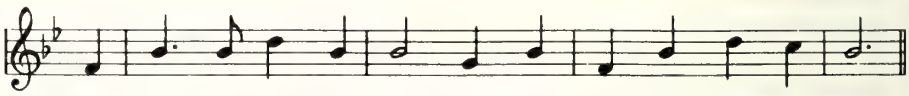
"God's Word For All Earth's People"

Barclay M. Newman
© 1983 United Bible Societies

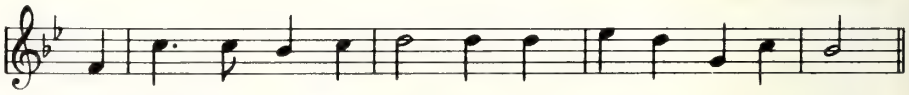
Setting: "Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus" (Webb)



1 God's Word for all earth's peo - ple, for ev' - ry - one who reads;
2 God's Word in ev' - ry lang - uage, our miss - ion and our joy.
3 God's Word in all its full - ness, our call - ing and our task.



The mess - age clear and sim - ple, to meet their deep - est needs.
All peo - ple need God's mess - age, for them our strength em - ploy.
Make known the Scrip-ture's great - ness, its truth to all who ask.



God's Word for all earth's peo - ple, the truth do not with - hold;
God's Word in ev' - ry lang - uage, the Lord has sent us forth.
God's Word in all its full - ness, com - plete in ev' - ry hand;

Pro - claim from roof and stee - ple, make known to all the world.
With joy, pro - vide God's mess - age for ev' - ry one on earth.
Re - veal the Scrip-ture's fresh - ness that all may un - der - stand.

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PLEASANT HILL HAS NEW FELLOWSHIP BUILDING

Above is a recent homecoming scene at Pleasant Hill Church Fellowship Building. The building was financed by the Church Finance Association. Billy Ray Haddock, Jesse Boyd, and Joe Woolard serve as the building committee.

There was an offering of $5,600 taken for the harvest offering. The church is located on Highway 43 south, Greenville. The Rev. C. F. Bowen is pastor.

State Layman's League Convention to Meet

The State Layman's League Convention will be held at Shiloh Church, Route 1, Pinetown, on November 12, 1983. The scheduled program is as follows:

Prelude
Hymn, "Onward Christian Soldiers"
Invocation, Rex Wainright
Greetings, the Rev. Bobby Brown
Welcome, Mitchel Windley
Response, J. T. Wilson
Special Music, Shiloh Church
Recognize Pastors and District Conventions
Message, the Rev. Bobby Brown
Hymn, "Amazing Grace"
Offering
Business Meeting
Hymn, "Blest Be the Tie"
Benediction
Presiding, Henry Paul Beaman
Pianist, the Rev. Joe Griffith
Song Leader, the Rev. Clyde Cox

Eastern District Youth to Meet

On Saturday, November 19, at 7:30 p.m., the Third Union District Youth Fellowship of the Eastern Conference will hold its regular meeting at Smith's New Home Church, Route 1, Deep Run. The church is located 11 miles south of Kinston on Highway 258. All churches of the district are urged to have as many of their youth present as possible.

The inspirational program for the gathering will be built around contemporary religious and church music. A popular Christian group of young people, who write most of their songs and music, will be the guest performers. Leaders of the youth fellowship feel this program will be outstanding in its field and will be very helpful and informative in the field of contemporary religious music among Christian youth.

New Creations Performing At Smith's New Home

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will be in concert at Smith's New Home Church, Route 1, Deep Run, on Sunday, November 13, 7:30 p.m. The church is located 11 miles south of Kinston on Highway 258. The public is invited.

Upcoming Events at Trinity Church, Clayton

Trinity Church, Clayton, will have old fashioned day on November 13, 1983. The Rev. Fred Rivenbark, pastor at Sherron Acres Church in Durham, will be the guest speaker for this special day. Dinner will be served in the fellowship hall of the church. In the afternoon special music will be presented by The Damascus Way and The Gospel Ambassadors. The pastor, the Rev. Lloyd F. Hargis, invites everyone to come and enjoy this special event at Trinity Church.

A Fun Sunday at Trent Church

While the fathers worked carving, the children enjoyed watching as well as the end result.

On Sunday, October 16, 1983, Trent Church, Merritt, enjoyed a jack-o'-lantern carving event. Pumpkins were lined upon tables outdoors between the church and the fellowship building. Directly following church services, everyone gathered around and started carving. There were many expressions created in that hour of carving. Pastor Dewitt Cleve's jack-o'-lantern even had eye lashes, and no one can imagine how he did that. Both the adults and children enjoyed the beautiful sunny day.

(Continued on Page 15)

MY TESTIMONY
(Part III)

Charles Barnard

It was during my teenage years that I began to question myself concerning God's call upon my life. Humility and dependence were shoved aside by my desire for popularity and independence. I never doubted the fact that God had a chosen vocation for me. But I began to wonder WHY?

I did so want to serve Him! I did want to be a missionary! I knew that I would only find true happiness by remaining in the center of His will. However, I would not accept His plan for my life unless He would agree to my terms.

God would have to satisfy my rights as an individual if He was to obtain my services. After all, I thought, I am not just your average run-of-the-mill future missionary. I come from a long line of dedicated Christian workers. I belong to an important church in an important denomination. My potential is unlimited, I reasoned. No sir, if God was to use me it would cost Him a lot!

Often, my mind would sweep me away from English class to some strange and exotic foreign land. I would be standing before more people than Billy Graham ever dreamed of. He would be taking notes with all the others. Millions would come to Christ through my powerful sermons. Thousands upon thousands would be healed by my touch. The Holy Spirit would descend on my command. Yes, I would be God's statesman IF He would meet my demands.

I'm not quite sure of the when, where, or how, God said "NO" to my proposed conditions for service. His Word and His servants reminded me that if I was to be His minister it would have to be on His conditions, and His alone. I would have to become a child again, dependent upon Him for all things. A slave, a servant, a crossbearer. Any popularity to be enjoyed was His. He demanded a broken and contrite spirit, an obedient heart, and a willingness to let Him have absolute control. I understood. My answer was "No."

What was I to do? My confidence in His calling during earlier years haunted me. How could I confess to others that I had said "No" to God? It seemed that I must either give in to Him or recant. My pride would not allow me to do either. I would keep up a good front, but inside my heart grew cold. I was beginning to slip away from Him, yet I thought no one would know.

At times I would slip away for a night on the town with some older boys. Somehow God protected me from much I could have gotten into. The other boys never forced me to join them in their drinking, smoking, or drugs. However, compromise was close at hand. I would accompany them to the little country "Juke joints" and sip a coke while they got drunk. It was worth the dangers of being caught to be able to drive them home in their fancy "souped-up" cars, I thought.

One night I was shocked as I was about to enter one such place. A deacon from my church was seated at the bar. He never saw me, but I saw him! I reasoned from this that others in the church were like me. This hypocrisy opened new doors to my imagination.

On another occasion I heard my Sunday school teacher curse. He had experienced some problem recently that had angered him. The slightest provocation set him off. He was really giving someone a tongue-lashing.

Perhaps, the most damaging and discouraging event that left its impression upon my mind was when I was allowed to join a group of pastors during a "gab" session. The off-color, racially biased jokes and the bitter backbiting of other pastors and deacons caught me off guard. A constant battle for one-up-man-ship emerged before my eyes.

All of this, combined with the pressures of the American pursuit of self in the sixties and with my own misgivings, made any positive answer to the question of "Why be a missionary?" difficult to support. As a matter of fact, it often seemed that I was the only person concerned with such a foolish question, anyway.

Yet, the knowledge and assurance of God's call upon my life did not weaken. As I ran farther and farther away from the prescribed life-style of a would-be missionary I felt His presence in greater proportion. It was during these high school years that the sleepless nights began. Guilt became my companion, a loneliness of separation my bedfellow. I looked everywhere for an alternative to saying "Yes" to God.

If I would just give in I could sleep. But it was too late. I was too far down in sin to be of any use to God now. Besides, what

would my peers say? I saw things through the eyes of the world. I would not let go. I held out for my terms. Sooner or later God would see the wisdom of my plans and give in.

Still, the fire, while fast becoming cold, was present in my heart. There were times when a breath of fresh air would fan the embers into flame. True children of God would cross my path and stir the desire lying deep within. Little did I realize that around 2600 years before another young man had endured much of what I was experiencing.

"Then said I, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay."—(Jeremiah 20:9, *King James Version*)

I could not know that God had someone just around the corner in my future that would guide me slowly but surely back into the right path. In Part IV, I will introduce you to this "guardian angel" that helped bring me through my period of procrastination.

Charles I. Barnard

CRAGMONT

SEPTEMBER 1983 REPORT

Receipts

Central Conference	
Ayden	$ 150.00
Greenville Christian Service Woman's Auxiliary	20.00
Aspen Grove	100.00
Greenville, First	300.00
Third Union District	50.00
Marlboro	287.52
Edgewood	90.00
Dilda's Grove Sunday School	41.20
Willing Workers	20.00
Spring Branch	175.00
Little Creek	100.00
Piney Grove	59.42
Total	$1,393.14
Albemarle Conference	
Mount Tabor	$ 25.00
Total	$ 25.00
Cape Fear Conference	
Saint Mary's Grove	$ 50.00
Palmer Memorial	42.00
Robert's Grove	500.00
Total	$592.00
Eastern Conference	
Oriental	$ 10.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	20.00
Arapahoe	30.00
Rock of Zion	30.00
Holly Springs	500.00
British Chapel	200.00
Oak Grove	125.00
Davis	100.00
Beulaville	100.00
Pilgrims Rest	5.00
Friendship	25.00
Mount Zion	25.00
Total	$1,170.00
Piedmont Conference	
Heritage Mission	$ 121.84
Total	$ 121.84
Western Conference	
Friendship Woman's Auxiliary	$ 40.00
People's Chapel	50.00
Pleasant Grove (Ella V. Rich)	100.00
Sherron Acres	350.00
Wilson, First	375.00
Western District Youth Fellowship	25.00
Stancil's Chapel Sunday School	60.00
Union Grove Woman's Auxiliary	20.00
Marsh Swamp	400.00
Spring Hill	250.00
Everett Chapel	41.00
Unity	150.00
Milbournie	37.50
St. Mary's, Kenly	375.06
Total	$2,273.56
Others	
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association	$ 326.00
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Beamon	50.00
North Carolina Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention	1,027.42
Adult Sunday School Class, Saratoga	100.00
Gospel Outreach	5.00
Faith Original Mission	10.00
Total	$1,518.42
Total	$7,093.96

Disbursements

Salaries	$3,659.92
Utilities	3,240.95
Food	5,393.71
Office Supply	151.89
Store	3,616.36
Taxes	1,061.96
Insurance	2,612.74
Maintenance and Repair	993.08
Gas	178.80
Mileage and Travel	566.00
Promotional	671.92
Miscellaneous	6,398.10
Total	$28,545.43

Disbursements

Repay Petty Cash	$ 244.18
Payment on Vacuum Cleaner	194.76
Purchase of Ceiling Fan	204.38
Transfer of Funds to Corporation	5,000.00
Purchase of Trailer	495.00
Repay Petty Cash	169.78
Replace Glasses	90.00
Total	$6,398.10

OBITUARIES

MRS. NINA H. BEAMAN

Mrs. Nina Heath Beaman, 78, died Wednesday, October 26. Funeral services were conducted Friday, October 28, at 3:30 p.m., at Free Union Church, Walstonburg. Burial was in Snow Hill Cemetery.

Surviving are her husband, the Rev. Dan Beaman; daughters, Mrs. Joyce Beaman Taylor of Snow Hill, and Mrs. Mary Beaman Godwin of Chester, Virginia; a sister, Mrs. Lessie H. Barber of Goldsboro; a grandson, Donnie Godwin.

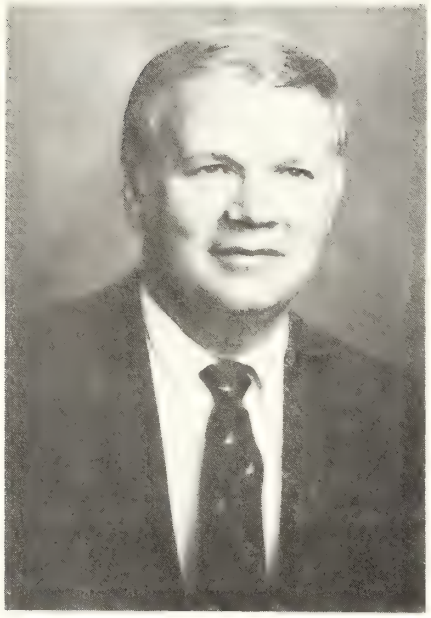
IN MEMORY OF MRS. MYRTLE JACKSON BAREFOOT

On Saturday, September 10, 1983, God, in His infinite wisdom and mercy, selected another white rose to adorn His Kingdom, when He called Mrs. Myrtle Jackson Barefoot to her reward. She had been in ill health for several months.

She loved the Lord and served her church and auxiliary well, as long as her health permitted, and was glad to lend a hand to those around her who were in need of help. She served as president of the woman's auxiliary for some years. When she was nominated, as she made her acceptance remarks, she said she could say as Paul said in Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

(Continued on Page 15)

TRUSTEE NAMED



Gerald L. Anderson

State Representative Gerald L. Anderson of New Bern has been elected to the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees.

Anderson is serving a third term as a member of the North Carolina General Assembly. He represents Craven, Lenoir and Pamlico Counties. He chairs the Economy Committee and is vice-chairman of the Agriculture Committee and the Natural Resources and Community Development Committee.

Anderson is a Civitan and is a member of the New Bern Board of Realtors. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Committee of "100" Industrial Board.

The newly elected trustee founded and manages Gerald Anderson Realty Company and Gerald Anderson Logging Company, Inc.

Anderson served a three-year term on the Board of Deacons of Calvary Baptist Church.

He and his wife, Marie, live in New Bern. They have five children, Teresa, Tina, Gerald Jr., Lisa, and Joshua.

Mrs. Anderson is the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Willie E. Stilley of New Bern. Mr. Stilley is an ordained Free Will Baptist minister.

COLLEGE SINGING GROUPS TO PERFORM

The New Creations, November 13, Spring Hill Church, Goldsboro, 11 a.m., Smith's New Home Church, Deep Run, 7 p.m.

The Mount Olive College Singers, November 11, Jim Burns Show, WECT—TV, Channel 6, 11:30 a.m.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DINNERS

The final Mount Olive College dinners are approaching. Much is needed to support the educational goals of the college. Each church in each county is encouraged to reach the goal of gift support. Gifts and attendance are up. Let's keep up the good work.

All friends of the college are invited to attend the dinner in their area.

The following dinners are scheduled:

Craven County, Monday, November 14, 7 p.m., West Craven Middle School near New Bern. Miss Marice DeBruhl is chairman of the dinner. The goal is $11,275. The Mount Olive College singers will sing.

Sampson, Harnett and Cumberland Counties, Tuesday, November 15, 7 p.m., Midway School near Spivey's Corner. C. Felton Godwin is the chairman. The goal is $9,000. The Mount Olive College Singers will sing.

Pamlico County, Saturday, November 19, 6 p.m., Camp Vandemere, Vandemere, N. M. (Tom) Caroon is chairman of the dinner. The goal is $6,200. The New Creations will sing.

CHURCH VISITS BY COLLEGE PERSONNEL

Sunday, November 13

Calvin Mercer, professor of religion, will be the speaker for the College Day service at Juniper's Chapel, Craven County. He will speak at the 11 a.m. worship service. The Rev. Stanley Buck is the pastor.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president, will speak at Rains Cross Roads Church at the 11 a.m. worship service. This day has been set aside to honor the five Boykin sisters, daughters of the late William Anderson and Catherine Rains Boykin, for their years of church and community service. The Rev. Edmund Gonzales is the pastor.

MOC ADMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVES TO VISIT HIGH SCHOOLS

Students will have a chance to learn about Mount Olive College during the fall Post Secondary Opportunity Session at their school.

Don Hargrove is scheduled to visit the following schools:

November 14

Dare County, Manteo High School, 8:45 a.m. (Manteo, Columbia and Cape Hatteras High Schools)

Currituck County, Currituck High School, 11:00 a.m.

Camden County, Camden High School, 1:00 p.m.

Pasquotank County, Northeastern High School, 7:00 p.m.

November 15

Perquimans County, Perquimans High School, 8:30 a.m.

Chowan and Washington Counties, Holmes High School, 10:15 a.m. (Holmes and Creswell High Schools)

Bertie County, Bertie High School, 1:15 p.m. (Bertie High School and Lawrence Academy)

November 16

Hertford County, Ahoskie High School, 8:30 a.m. (Ahoskie and Murfreesboro High Schools and Ridgecroft School)

Gates County, Gates High School, 10:45 a.m.

Northhampton County, Northhampton County-East High School, 1:30 p.m.

November 17

Halifax County, Weldon High School, 8:30 a.m., Roanoke High School, 10:15 a.m.;

(Roanoke Rapids High School and Halifax Academy) Northwest High School, 1:00 p.m. (Northwest and Southeast High Schools)

November 18

Nash County, Northern Nash High School, 8:30 a.m.

BOYKIN DAUGHTERS TO BE HONORED

The Rev. Edmund Gonzales, pastor of Rains Cross Roads Church near Kenly has announced that Sunday, November 13, will be set aside to honor the five Boykin daughters. They are Ella Boykin Boyette, Eva Boykin Williamson, Sarah Catherine (Sadie) Boykin Peedin and Anne Boykin Stichter.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will participate in the 11 a.m. worship service. He will honor the women for their years of service and leadership to their church and their community.

In service to Mount Olive College, the William Anderson and Catherine Rains Boykin Family Scholarship Endowment Fund has been established. The endowment fund consists of contributions made to Mount Olive College in memory of or in honor of members of the Boykin family. Earnings from the fund are used to provide scholarships for worthy students. Special consideration is given to students who are preparing for the Christian ministry. Consideration is also given to members of Rains Cross Roads Church, Johnston County.

A fellowship luncheon will be held at the church following the service.

November is Children's Home month

Children's Home

REPORT TO THE ANNUAL 1983 CONFERENCES

Over the last 63 years Free Will Baptists have ministered to over 750 children. God has used the Home to meet the needs of each individual child. The children come to the Home from many levels of life. But they all share one situation in common—they need someone to care for them. Free Will Baptists have cared and are still caring about children who have needs. These needs are physical, emotional, and spiritual and it is our goal to meet each child's needs.

This past year the Home ministered to 46 children on campus and through our Family Services program helped others to remain in their homes. Several of the children this year have accepted Christ as their Saviour and we thank God for the moving of His Holy Spirit.

The children enjoyed their summer vacation. They have worked in the garden and the canning of food. Some of the children worked under the CETA program this summer, which provided valuable work experience. As they look forward to the school year, many of the children will be participating in music, band, color guard and other extracurricular activities.

Beginning in August the children have had the opportunity to begin on-campus counseling in the area of Family Life Education. These group sessions were held in the Educational Center. This summer has proven successful educationally. During this summer, evaluation and testing has been rendered to each child and will be an asset as they enter the new school year.

In June of this year the Home began a new ministry to meet the needs of some of our older children. This ministry is preparation for independence. It is designed to help adolescents develop life skills, experience in decision making and move to self-sufficiency. The ministry is an on-campus experience supervised by the child care staff that allows the adolescents to prepare to function in the outside world and to feel confident in doing so.

We take this opportunity to thank each church, individual and family that has visited the Home. And we thank everyone for their prayers and financial support to the child care ministry of Free Will Baptists. Because you care about God's ministry to children, hope, security and a Christian Home have been a reality to our boys and girls. Please continue to remember the children in your prayers and those who work with them.

Bobby R. Taylor
Executive Director

THANK YOU

The Rev. and Mrs. Bobby Brown want to thank all of their friends for the cards and gifts during the pastor appreciation Wednesday night of the revival. Thank you and may God bless you for your love. May the Lord grant us many more happy times in the Lord.

Yours in His service,
The Rev. Bobby Brown

ATTENTION

The Western Conference Layman's League Convention will meet on Monday, November 21, at 7:30 p.m., at Mount Zion Church (Nash County), Momeyer, North Carolina. All laymen are urged to attend.

Fred Boykin

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. W. Howard Starling announces that he has a change of address. It is P.O. Box 909, Beaufort, North Carolina 28516; phone, 728-6424.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Scripture Reading—Galatians 3, 4

THE DEACON'S TROUBLED CONSCIENCE

An aged deacon came to me at the close of a sermon. He was deeply distressed. I had said in the message that each one of us will inescapably reap what we have sown. In his earlier years, the deacon had sown to his flesh. He had gone deeply into ways of sin. For years, however, he had lived an exemplary Christian life. "I shudder to think what I'll have to reap," he said. He was greatly relieved, however, when I told him that another—Christ—had reaped and suffered for his sins in his stead; that God had put upon His Son the iniquity of us all; that He, the just, had suffered for the unjust, and that God had blotted out his guilty past.

How greatly should we love Him; how wholeheartedly should we serve Him! How wonderful are God's promises: "All his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him" (Ezekiel 18:22).

For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more (Hebrews 8:12).

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Scripture Reading—Galatians 5, 6

HARVEST DAY

When we come to the reaping time in life,
And our harvest is full-grown,
Will our hearts be glad, or spirits sad,
As we view the things we've sown?

For the things that we do and say today,
And the deeds of yesterday,
Are the deeds we sow as we onward go
Toward our final Harvest Day.

There'll be many a long-forgotten word
That cheered some heart distressed,
Many deeds of love only known above
Yet whose fruitage God has blessed.

'Tis for us to choose in the sight of God
For the good or evil way;
And the life we live will our witness give
In that last great Harvest Day!

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 1, 2

THE SCARS REMAIN

John B. Gouch was a humanly hopeless and helpless drunkard before his conversion. One Sunday morning he lay in the gutter of a street where churchgoers passed. What a pathetic sight he was! His face was covered with flies. Some kind-hearted person placed a clean handkerchief over his bloated face. When Gouch sobered up, he removed the handkerchief from his face. Looking at it, he exclaimed, "Somebody cared enough for me to stop and place this handkerchief over my face!" His slumbering soul began to awaken. He came to God for mercy and forgiveness. Later he became a mighty power for God and the cause of temperance. He could, however, give only the fag end of his life to God. This was the great regret of his life and he used to say, "The scars remain! I have been snatched as a brand from the burning, but the scars remain—scars never to be eradicated, never to be removed this side of glory!"

Some people sow wild oats during the week and then slip into church on Sunday to pray for a crop failure.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 3, 4

A ROSEATE OR JAUNDICED WORLD, WHICH?

A small, snarling terrier stood before a large mirror. He worked himself into a frenzy over "another terrier" who was exactly like him and did exactly the things he did. Then the mirror was removed and the terrier quieted down and went away.

Sometimes we complain bitterly about the world's ill-humor. Is not most of it the reflection of our own sullen ill-humor? If we look at the world through yellow spectacles, we will see a jaundiced world. If we look at the world through rose-colored spectacles, we will see a roseate world.

Then life is the mirror of king or slave,
It is just what you are and do,
Then give to the world the best you have,
And the best will come back to you.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 5, 6

JESUS AND I WENT BY

A farmer accepted Christ as his Saviour. The next morning he had to go into town. He parked his car and got out. Then he started to go to the hardware store. Suddenly he smelled liquor fumes coming out of a tavern. The fumes were strong. He began to wonder if he could resist going into the tavern and getting a drink like he had always done when he came to town. Then he remembered that he now had Christ to help him. He prayed out loud, saying, "Jesus, You must help me *go by* that tavern and not *go in!*" Christ heard and responded to his call for help. He went *by* the tavern and did not go *in*. In relating his experience to a friend, the farmer said, "The Lord came and helped me. *We* went by the saloon, and *we* have been going by ever since!"

The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation (2 Peter 2:9).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Scripture Reading—Philippians 1, 2

HOW WE ARE MADE STRONG

An elderly man asked a boy to go with him into the woods to cut down some hickory trees to make ax handles. They soon came to several young hickory trees. The boy said, "These trees would make good ax handles. Let's cut them down."

The old man said, "These trees in the lowlands have been protected from the storms which rage higher up. Let's go to the heights where the trees have been rocked back and forth by fierce winds. Those trees have been hardened by the tempest and they will make much stronger ax handles!"

Those who have been exposed to temptations—rocked to and fro by the tempter, Satan, but who have not yielded—are made stronger. We can be "more than conquerors through him that loved us!"

Job said, "When he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold."

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Scripture Reading—Philippians 3, 4

THE PLACE IS OCCUPIED!

A saintly teacher was held in great admiration by his pupils. His poise and peace, even in times of strain and stress, registered greatly with his pupils. In class one day a student asked him, "Sir, we want to know the secret of your serenity, even under provocation which would cause us to go down in defeat. You always seem to be unperturbed and untroubled. Do not testings and temptations phase you? Do not the pleasures of sin ever cause you to go into forbidden paths?" Smiling, the teacher replied, "I know something of the things of which you speak. The appealing enticements to sin that trouble you do come to me, too, but when these temptations knock at the door of my heart, I simply say to the tempter, Satan, 'The place is occupied.' "

Ever remember this fact: "Ye are of God, little children, and greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4), *and you will emerge victoriously from temptation.*

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

Striving for excellence is part of our Christian duty—it is also part of our Christian witness. For example: Are the absentees in your Sunday school class convinced that you care about them if they are absent several weeks—months—and they never hear from you? Does undone church work show that you are too busy, unprepared or unable to handle the task at hand, **or** lazy? People automatically assume that you are lazy when it is possible that nothing could be further from the truth. "Nonverbal communication speaks so loudly that people often cannot hear a single word we say."

Dr. David McClellan, professor of psychology at Harvard, says, "Most people are divided into two broad groups. There is that minority which is challenged by opportunity and is willing to work hard to achieve something, and the majority, which really does not care all that much." Which camp are you in? Are you willing to work to accomplish something for yourself, for the cause of Christ. Or will you settle for the life of a prairie chicken?

"Compared with what we ought to be, we are only half awake. Our fires are damped, our drafts are checked. We are making use of only a small part of our possible mental and physical resources" (William James). As a result, our Christian witness is suffering.

Have a Thankful Holiday Season

For November 13

GOD'S INDWELLING SPIRIT

Lesson Text: John 14:25, 26; Romans 8:9-17, 26-28
Memory Verse: Romans 8:9

I. INTRODUCTION

As we begin to consider "God's Indwelling Spirit," let's face this fact: *We don't know very much about Him.* That should neither surprise nor worry us, for we don't know much about any spirit. In our proud "scientific age" we have gathered huge amounts of knowledge about many things. But spirits elude our grasp. We cannot study the Holy Spirit as a scientist studies material things, but we know what is told us in God's Word.

We face two dangers as we enter into a study of God's Spirit dwelling in us.

1. God's Spirit directed the writing of the Bible (2 Peter 1:21; 2 Timothy 3:16). When we follow the teaching of Scripture, God's Spirit is leading us. This we know. Then we may be tempted to say God's Spirit cannot lead anyone except by means of the Bible. This is more than we know for sure. However, it is extremely dangerous to think the Spirit speaks to us directly in our hearts or minds. If we convince ourselves that He does that, we are inclined to think any impulse in our heart must come from Him. However, it may come merely from our own desire (James 1:14). It may come directly or indirectly from the devil (1 Peter 5:8, 9). How can we know whether the impulse in our heart is good or bad? We have to check it by the Bible. The Spirit leads us through the Word He inspired, and that is the leading we can be sure of.

2. The first part of our lesson text records a promise Jesus made to His apostles. Some devout Christians today like to think that every promise to the apostles is a promise to all of us who follow Jesus. God does not play favorites, they say; what He does for one He does for all. It is true that God is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34), but that does not mean His indwelling Spirit gives the same help to everyone. On the contrary, the Spirit gives different abilities to different people so that they can work together and help each other (1 Corinthians 12:4-13). Only the apostles can reasonably claim all the promises made to apostles (1 Corinthians 12:27-30). Each of us needs to see what ability God has given him, and then use that ability unselfishly for the benefit of the whole body of Christ, the church.

We are not trying this week to learn all that can be learned about the Spirit of God, but centering our study on what is done by the Spirit as He lives in us. Our lesson text is a good guide, but basic to this study are three facts not emphasized in this text:

1. The Holy Spirit does live in us.
2. God gives Him to us.
3. He is given when we are saved.

The first two of these are found in 1 Corinthians 6:19, and Acts 2:38 adds the third.

The Spirit of God was moving on the face of the waters while the earth was still without form and void (Genesis 1:1, 2). He had a part in bringing order out of chaos, as did God the Father (Genesis 1:1) and His Son, Jesus (John 1:1-3). This is one of the things we are bypassing in order to focus attention on what the Spirit does in God's people.

Even when we think only of the Spirit's work through people, we may fail to appreciate what a large field that is. Notice a few examples:

1. The Spirit gave Bezaleel special inspired skill in hand work of various kinds (Exodus 31:1-5).
2. The Spirit gave Samson almost incredible strength and fearlessness (Judges 15:14-16).
3. The Spirit came upon David when he was anointed to be king (1 Samuel 16:13), and doubtless gave him his great ability as a leader.
4. The Spirit gave all the prophets the messages they were to deliver (2 Peter 1:21).

When we think of the Spirit working in Christians, we still find that He gives them different abilities and leads them in different kinds of service. We have noticed already the statement of this in 1 Corinthians 12. Look also at Romans 12:3-8.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

In *The Robe,* by Lloyd Douglas, Marcellus asked Justus: "Where do you think Jesus went?" "I don't know . . . I only know that He is alive—and I am always expecting to see Him. Sometimes I feel aware of Him, as if He were close by . . . It keeps you honest . . . You have no temptation to cheat anyone, or lie to anyone, or hurt anyone—when, for all you know, Jesus is standing beside you." "I'm afraid I should feel very uncomfortable," remarked Marcellus, "being perpetually watched by some invisible presence." "Not if that presence helped you defend yourself against yourself, Marcellus. It is a great satisfaction to have someone standing by—to keep you at your best."—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 4)

LORD: in it there is MASTERY! It is a lordship of love.

We do not make terms with this Lord Christ. We surrender to Him. We do not negotiate religious contracts with Him. We submit to Him.

Being Christian does not mean being interested in Jesus Christ. It means being involved in Him in life—forever. It stems from being died for.

To affirm Jesus Christ as Lord is to be willing to give oneself away. Simply put, this means that a Christian is a person who knows that he possesses His own will to do the will of the Lord.

A Christian may never again do what he likes. But in Christ, he can come to like what he does.

Earth has been a visited planet over since the Great Physician made His house call. As the anonymous writer says:

> "All the armies that ever marched,
> all the navies that ever sailed,
> all the parliaments that ever sat,
> all the rulers that ever ruled,
> all the prophets who ever preached,
> have not affected or changed or challenged the lives of persons on this planet as has this one solitary life."

He is the Living Word of God!

He is the Word in and around, through and over the words of God.

Used by permission *Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary Bulletin.*

IN MEMORY

(Continued from Page 10)

Mrs. Myrtle will be missed at Robert's Grove and in the community, but we know that our loss is Heaven's gain. May the hearts of her family and friends be filled with the love of the God she served, they can be filled with the sweet communion and fellowship of His Holy Spirit, as we know she was. Another of her favorite Scriptures is found in Philippians 1:21, "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Mrs. James Spell

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 7)

Preacher Dewitt T. Cleve carving jack-o'-lantern.

After the pumpkin carving, a covered dish dinner was enjoyed by everyone in the fellowship building.

Paul Palmer Course At Verona Church

The *Book of Revelation* will be taught by Rudene Kennedy at Verona Church each Tuesday, 7:30-9:30 p.m., beginning November 8, and continuing through December 27.

The cost of the course is $20 and it is open to all interested persons. It may be taken for or without Institute Credit.

The Paul Palmer Institute of Mount Olive College offers courses throughout eastern North Carolina in biblical studies and other areas of interest to pastors, Sunday school teachers, and other Christian workers. For information on scheduling a course in your area, contact Frank R. Harrison, Director of Church Relations, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (phones: office 658-2502; home 658-9363).

Now is a good time to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist*.

ATTENTION

Dear Friends,

November 20, 1983, has been planned as a day to recognize fifty years of service to our Lord and to the Original Free Will Baptist denomination by the Rev. N. Dan Beaman and the late Mrs. Beaman. A worship service will be held at Free Union Original Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Walstonburg, beginning at three in the afternoon.

Following the worship service a reception honoring Mr. Beaman and commemorating Mrs. Beaman will be held in the Free Union Fellowship Building. The reception will be from 4:15 until 5:30 p.m. It is asked that no personal gifts be brought but during this day an endowment will be established through Mount Olive College to invite an outstanding evangelistic speaker to the campus each year. These meetings would be open to the entire denomination.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend as we show our appreciation for the dedicated careers of Dan and Nina Beaman. Several representatives from throughout their ministry will speak during the worship hour and everyone will have an opportunity to show his appreciation through the reception and through gifts to the endowment.

Calvin A. Heath

SINGSPIRATIONS PLANNED

The Central Conference Layman's League will sponsor two singspirations during the month of November. The first singspiration will be held at Rose of Sharon Church, Bear Grass, on November 11. The second service is scheduled for Friendship Church, Farmville, on November 18. Both services will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend these meetings.

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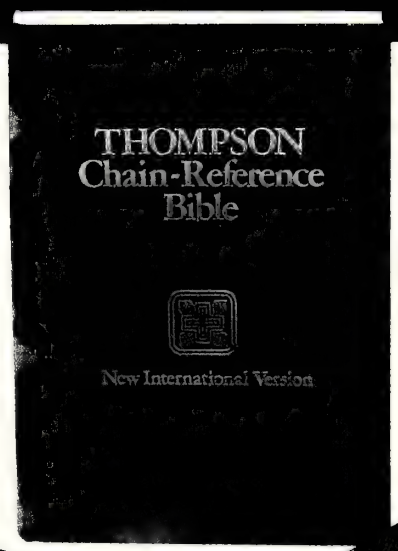

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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November 16, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Editorial

Who Are We Really Trying to Fool?

The fact that so many are so concerned about the use of time points to the frantic state of our culture. The terms *schedule, deadline,* and *commitment* have become mere catchwords in our society.

But time can never be saved. It is not like other resources that can be stored, preserved, and reserved for future consumption. Time can only be used.

Each day, God issues 24 hours. Each fresh supply—much like manna—can only be consumed during that day. Whereas there may be many inequities regarding virtually every other resource, when it comes to the precious commodity we call time—no one gets more or less than his individual share. Time is nontransferable and cannot be manipulated by the rich and powerful.

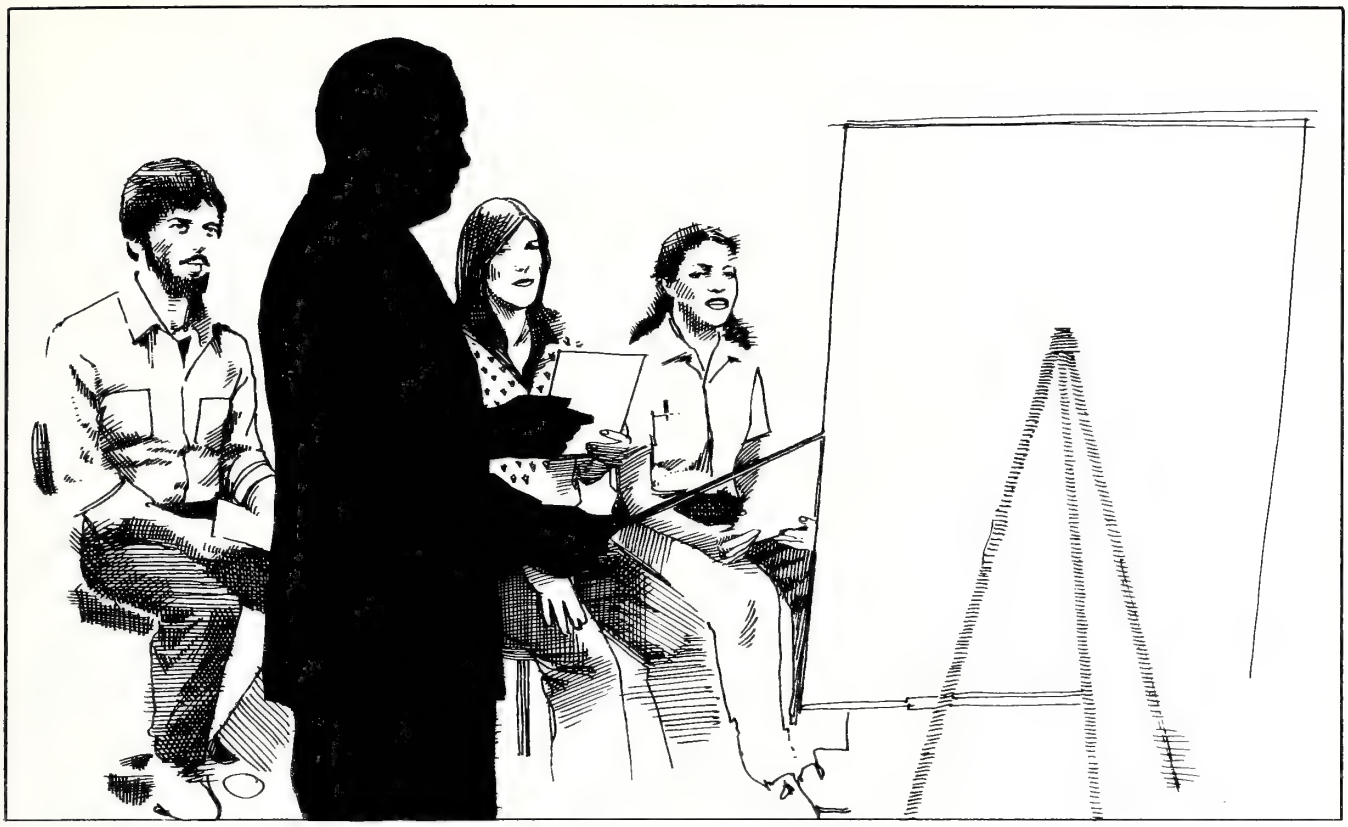
How we use this precious commodity exposes a great deal about us, for our schedules reveal our true priorities. In Douglass and Baker's recently revised *Time Management,* they state unflinchingly, ". . . you always have time for the most important things." To this I have to add a hearty "Amen!"

We often try to disguise our priorities behind the complaint, "I just didn't have time." But if we are honest, we would probably be more truthful if we responded, "I didn't think it important enough to take the time." You see, we do have time for the things we consider most important in life. For example, consider what happens to an individual's schedule when there is a death in the family or when someone falls in love. Suddenly, there is all the time in the world.

I've never quite understood why people who stay out late on Saturday night can't make it to church on Sunday; they usually make it to work on Monday—at an earlier time—no matter what time they go to bed on Sunday. Why do people stay out of church just because they are tired when these same individuals go to work even when they have a temperature of 103°? Why does an entire family stay home to wipe the runny nose of a toddler on Sunday when that same child becomes the responsibility of a sitter Monday through Friday? It looks to me as though the Almighty Dollar takes precedence over God Almighty.

Why do we have time to watch ballgames and talk on the phone, when we don't have time to feed upon the Bread of Life and to commune with Him who created us? How can we talk hours on end about others—usually rather maliciously—when we don't have time to talk with our families? How can time be found in schedules for club and organization meetings when we can't "make" time to attend prayer meetings or to join in visitation efforts? (It has been said that you could tell who the committed Christians are in any congregation—they are the ones who make it to midweek services.)

(Continued on Page 15)



WANTED!

by Ken Hope

Recently, Satan assembled his troops for a *Soul Losing Workshop.* The purpose for this event was to instruct Satan's workers how to effectively place stumbling blocks in the way of God's children. Throughout the rally it was reported that the greatest advances had been made through *materialism, worldliness,* and *good ole' neglect!* They constantly rejoiced over those, who, at one time were faithfully following Christ, but now had returned to the ranks of the wicked and useless.

Satan himself took the platform and announced to his followers his list of the *Ten Most Wanted!* Satan informed his workers that these individuals were wanted because of heinous crimes committed against the "domain of darkness" (Colossians 1:13). He announced that these "guilty parties" were doing a tremendous amount of damage to his dominion (Acts 26:18). He was quoted as saying, "Because of these individuals many are obeying the gospel and are living as faithful Christians. *These men and women must be stopped!*"

After the workshop was over, a faithful child of God somehow gained access to the list and has disclosed its content to the brotherhood. Here is the list of *Satan's Ten Most Wanted . . . their names* and *the crimes* they are guilty of committing.

Terry Teacher—This man is wanted because he has the audacity to love God's Word and teach it to others. He must be stopped because many are obeying the gospel due to his unceasing efforts. He understands too well Proverbs 11:30, which says, "he that wins souls is wise." He is to be considered armed (with God's Word) and dangerous! *He must be silenced!* Approach him with extreme caution.

Wendell Worker—This man is wanted because he is the answer to the Lord's prayer for laborers (Matthew 9:37, 38). He has a "mind to work" (Nehemiah 4:6) and lives with the attitude found in Isaiah 6:8, which reads, "Here am I. Send Me!" If there is a good work to be accomplished, he is *ready* (Titus 3:1), *willing* (1 Samuel 17:32), and *dependable* (1 Corinthians 15:58). *He must be stopped!* He cannot be allowed to continue lest he stir up the lazy, sleeping, indifferent children of God.

Oliver Optimism—this man is wanted because he is not burdened with the "can'ts." He is constantly heard saying, "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). He accepts the bad with the good since he knows that all things work together for good to those that love God (Romans 8:28). *He must be stopped now!* If he is allowed to generate his

(Turn the Page)

positive attitude to all of God's children it will be impossible for us to do battle with them.

Cathy Character—This lady is wanted because she is creating havoc within our ranks. She has actually been seen taking a stand for things which are pure and right. Through her example alone, many have been exposed to the beauty of New Testament Christianity. Her proven character has influenced many who are now glorifying God. She played a big part in converting one of our best workers, her husband, simply by living the Christian life before him every day (1 Peter 3:1-6). *Let us use any and every device to stop this virtuous woman!*

Herman Humble—This man is wanted badly! He has the "mind of Christ" (humility, Philippians 2:5) and because of this, no work is too "menial." He will perform any and every task that he finds. Many times he does not even have to be asked. *Do not be deceived!* On the surface he appears unimportant to the Lord's church, but he is the backbone of every strong congregation. *He is very dangerous!* If we could just stop him, many things would be left undone and error could gain the ascendancy. *Let us stop him quickly!*

Sally Selfless—This lady is wanted because she understands that Christ did not please Himself (Romans 15:3) and she is trying to follow in His footsteps (1 Peter 2:21). She knows that love does not seek its own (1 Corinthians 13:5) so she seeks the good of others (1 Corinthians 10:24). Many people have noticed the joy in which she serves others. *We must get her more interested in herself!* Just the other day she was seen attending to the needs of those less fortunate. These things ought not be so! Now is the time to stop her efforts.

Fred Forgiveness—This man is wanted because he has the capacity to forgive. He has been heaping burning coals upon our heads for a number of years because of his forgiving spirit (Romans 12:19, 20). Some of our own number have been led to Christ having noticed the sheer beauty and power of a forgiving spirit. *We cannot forgive him for this!*

Greta Growing—This lady is wanted because from the day she received Christ (Acts 2:38) she has not ceased to grow. She is still pressing on toward maturity (Hebrews 6:1) and must be caused to fall from her own steadfastness (2 Peter 3:17). Her life is living testimony that all can live the Christian life without being overly burdened (1 John 5:3). *Let us stop her progress!* What if others pick up their cross because of her example?

Ursula Urgent—This lady is wanted because she understands the urgency of the gospel all too well. She is constantly using words like *today* and *now* (Hebrews 3:7; 2 Corinthians 6:2). She is silencing our cries of *tomorrow*. She is making

tremendous progress with the procrastinators by referring them to Acts 22:16, which reads, "And now why do you delay? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name." *We cannot afford to wait until tomorrow to silence this individual!*

Ernest Encouragement—This man is wanted because he encourages and builds up those who are weak and about to fall. He strengthens the hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble (Hebrews 12:12). Those about to join our ranks he rudely snatches from our grasp (Amos 3:12, Jude 22, 23). If we can get rid of him, then those who are wounded will ultimately die, having no one to seek and search for them (Ezekiel 34:4). *It would encourage us greatly if we could find him and put a stop to his work.*

—Reprinted by permission of *Christian Bible Teaching*, Abilene, Texas.

The Parable of the Hungry Hunter

Hear the parable of the hunter and his nourishing dinner.

A man went on a hunting trip, but found no game. He returned to his house discouraged, cold, tired, and hungry.

His wife, who had forseen what the circumstances of his return might be, had prepared a lavish meal. To the good woman's astonishment, the hungry hunter was not inclined to eat. In response to her frantic urging, he passed some complimentary remarks about the appetizing way in which the meal was served, but he would not eat.

Finally he did take a sip of soup and carefully put the rest in the refrigerator. Then, pale and weak from lack of nourishment, he went to bed.

What purposeless action; what an improbable episode!

But consider the case of a Book, much admired and little read. What other volume has received as much praise as the Bible? In every age, men great and small have given testimony that this is a Book among books, and there are few who have been bold enough to say otherwise.

In many American communities it would be difficult to find a home without a Bible. But it is even more difficult sometimes to find a home where the Bible is regularly studied and its contents well-known. It may be the most expensively bound volume in the house, but it is also the least read. Like the hunter's dinner, it is spurned with praise.

Perhaps you are the owner of such a Bible yourself. You do not challenge those who sing its praises, but for you it is uninteresting, difficult to read, and hard to understand. But you need the Bible as much as you need food and water. For the Bible is the Word of God and without it your God-given soul cannot survive.

It is possible that what you need is simple practice. You became too easily discouraged because you could not readily grasp new ideas when you first attempted serious Bible study. Take heart! Continue to read faithfully and ask the Author to help you to understand. Gradually you will find that studious application will bear fruit in this case as in the approach to any new subject.

However, it may be that what really makes the Bible a "dull" book for you is not what you do *not* understand, but what you *do* understand only too well. It was the custom in a certain Sunday school years ago to write in the flyleaf of all Bibles presented to its students, "Either this Book will keep you from sin, or sin will keep you from this Book." It is a formula which rarely breaks down.

Yet there are those who can read the Bible with no profit to their souls. They receive it as fine literature, but not as the Word of God. If one can find the Bible so interesting in such a disinterested way it is because he does not know the Author.

Read the Bible as the messages sent to you from your God, and in due season you will be trained to taste it as sweeter than honey. Read it daily and your soul will find it such a source of nourishment that you will esteem it more than your necessary food.

—Used by permission from *Pulpit Helps*, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

A TRIBUTE TO OSCAR WEBSTER

On October 4, 1983, God looked over the splendor of Heaven and decided He wanted another precious jewel in Heaven to help make this place a more precious one. So He knocked on the heart of Brother Oscar Webster, opened the gate of pearl and invited him to come home.

As requested by the Albemarle Conference for me to write a memorial of this good man, I gladly accepted it. *Memorial* comes from a Latin word pertaining to memory.

During the fall of 1935, it was my happy privilege to meet this good man who has served his denomination so well. He was a good supporter as well as a faithful one to the State Convention, Children's Home, Albemarle Conference, Union meetings, Sunday school union and to his church that he loved so dearly. Brother Oscar always took a firm stand on what he believed; he never displayed a picture of trying to play on both sides of the fence. He drew the line and stood for the right things.

How can I picture him any greater than what I have already said. However, I

(Turn the Page)

believe I can. Let's open the Holy Bible and lift up some Bible characters that portray his character and Christian walk of life.

First, he reminds me of Job, who was willing to suffer but still remained true to God. **Second,** the Psalmist David who could praise; I remember the many times Brother Oscar has praised my work as a minister and my work contributed to the cause of Christ. **Third,** the weeping Jeremiah, because we are to weep with those that weep. **Fourth,** Peter who could speak quick, sharp and powerfully. **Fifth,** John the beloved disciple who cared as well as being loving. **Sixth,** the Apostle Paul who had great courage and pressed on toward the goal.

May the passing of this beloved man give us a greater desire for the great "homegoing." And to his dear family you are loved and remembered by the Albemarle Conference.

Respectfully,
Charlie Overton

FUNERAL SERVICE FOR MR. OSCAR WEBSTER MESSAGE BY DAVID C. HANSLEY

submitted by Alice Webster

In such a time there is but one who can bring light out of darkness, who can heal the heart that is broken by grief, who can bring peace of soul and strength of spirit. That one is working within our midst today. That one is the God whom Paul called, "The God of all comfort." He did not fail Job. He did not fail Paul. He did not fail Christ. He will not fail us today.

When Moses bid a final farewell to the Israelites, he said to them, "The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms." "Let not your heart be troubled: Ye believe in God . . ."; ". . . with everlasting love I will have compassion on you, says the Lord, your Redeemer . . . ."

Have you ever sat on a hill and watched the sun going down? Has your soul thrilled at the beauty of the sunset? That is what I want you to see in this death of Brother Oscar Webster.

I like to think of this world as a park filled with gardens, trees and lakes. We, like children, are privileged to spend a day in this beautiful park. The time we are privileged to spend is not the same in length, in light, nor in beauty.

Some days are long and sunlit, others cloudy and stormy. Some are able to stay only a few short hours. Some must go home at noon of day while the sun is still shining. Others stay till the sun begins to set in the beauty of the west.

For each of us the moment comes when the great nurse of death takes us by the hand and quietly says, "It is time to go home, my child; come, come with me."

Brother Oscar Webster has been privileged to live until the shadows of the setting sun had lengthened, and the evening had come.

The business of the world was hushed and the fever of life was over and work was done. He laid aside his saw and hammer.

Oh the beauty of the sunset of a life like this.

The words which seem appropriate today are those of a Christian veteran who said, as he came to the close of life, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

The Apostle Paul had kept something even as he moved hither and yon throughout the Mediterranean world.

Like the Apostle Paul, Oscar Webster kept the FAITH.

I. HE KEPT FAITH WITH HIS WIFE

When two people enter the marriage bond, they do so as an adventure of faith. Neither one knows that the other will always be attractive or cooperative. They accept each other "for better, for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health."

Faith is a lovely thing at the marriage altar but it is more lovely after many, many anniversaries have been celebrated.

This man kept faith with his wife.

II. HE KEPT FAITH WITH HIS CHILDREN

When parents bring children into the world, that too is an adventure in faith. They do not know whether the children will bring honor or not. They proceed with faith.

The poet Gillian said of his father:

> He was my own until I full knew and never could forget how deep and true a father's love for his son may be.
>
> It drew me nearer to God himself; for he has loved his son.
>
> These are but grateful tears that he was with me all those happy years.

He kept faith with his children.

III. HE KEPT FAITH WITH HIS FRIENDS

Oscar Webster had a rapport with all people. He was a friend to the politicians, businessmen, the rich and the poor. He was to them what he had to be.

He was to all his friends what he had to be for Christ.

Brother Oscar never left anyone wondering if he knew his Lord, for in his speech and actions he expounded the Christian commitment through his faith.

IV. HE KEPT FAITH IN GOD

Most important of all, he kept faith in God.

He started early in life with faith in God and kept that faith to the end.

It was the realization that a greater power was behind his life that gave him courage, that kept a song in his heart, light in his eyes, and made him expendable for the Kingdom of God.

He had faith that God had destined him to live beyond the earth, and that there was laid up for him, and for all those who loved the Lord, "a crown of righteousness." That was, as Brother Oscar shared with me on several occasions, his conviction.

That's what kept your husband, your father, your grandfather, your friend and my or our Christian brother going.

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Donald Ribeiro Ordained

Donald Ribeiro and the Rev. Ed Taylor

Donald Ribeiro was ordained as a minister of the gospel by the Central Conference Ordaining Council, on October 27, in the fellowship hall of the new Winterville Church. Ministers participating in the ordination were the Revs. Harry Grubbs, Ray Williamson, Gary Bailey, and Ed Taylor, who delivered the sermon. Special music was rendered by the Rev. Ron Braxton, Greg Smith and Gladys Corbett. A reception was held after the service.

The ordination was the first official service to be held in the new Winterville Church. (Regular services have not begun there as yet due to unfinished painting.) E. C. Hines, mayor of Winterville, was on hand with the members of the Town Board to welcome the congregation.

Donald Ribeiro is a great asset to the gospel ministry, to the Original Free Will Baptist Church, and to the Central Conference. He and his wife, Karen, are members of the Winterville Church where he has been recently elected Associate Pastor. He has served as president of the Central Conference Youth Fellowship, president of the North Carolina State Youth Convention and has taught Sunday school for several years.

Donald is currently a second-year student enrolled in the East Carolina University School of Medicine. He received his B.S. degree in 1982. Donald regards both the ministry and medicine as callings of God, and he anticipates the two callings working together to the glory of God. Mrs. Ribeiro is a R.N. at Pitt Memorial Hospital.

The son of Mrs. Mae Mills of Greenville, and Kenneth Ribeiro of Cary, North Carolina, Donald and Karen reside at Route 3, Box 392-C, Greenville, North Carolina 27834; phone, 746-4569 (Ayden).

Senior Citizens Honored

On October 16, 1983, the Young Women's Circle of St. Mary's Grove Church held a luncheon in honor of their senior citizens. Approximately 80 people attended. Mrs. Opal Coats and Mrs. Brookie Honeycutt provided decorations reminiscent of the good old days. After the luncheon, the Swinging Elders from Coats, North Carolina, entertained with singing and special music from their old-fashioned instruments. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon of fellowship.

Upcoming Event at Angola Church

Angola Church, Route 1, Maple Hill, will hold its annual Old Fashioned Harvest Day Thanksgiving Celebration, November 20. There will be a special message by the pastor, the Rev. Orvin Everett Sr. Dinner will be served on the grounds and the dress will be old-fashioned style.

There is a special invitation to former members and friends of the church.

First Mission of Vanceboro Reopens

The First Mission of Vanceboro will be reopening on Sunday, November 27. There will be a rededication service during the morning worship with the central theme being "Rededication." The pastor, the Rev. M. G. (Jack) Webb invites everyone to attend this special service.

The Anchormen of Goldsboro to Be In Concert

The Anchormen of Goldsboro, will be in concert, at Christian Chapel Church in Pink Hill, on Sunday, November 20, at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Albemarle Youth Met

The Albemarle District Youth Fellowship Convention met October 3, 1983, at Plymouth First Church. "Praise God, the Creator" was the theme of the convention. The hymn "Praise Him, Praise Him," was sung by the congregation. Devotions were presented by Shiloh Church and their youth sang.

Attending the meeting were youth from six churches in the district. Shiloh had the largest percentage of members at the meeting and Sound Side was there with the largest number present.

New officers were elected for a two-year term. They were as follows: President, Billy Slade; vice president, Susan Taylor; secretary-treasurer, Elizabeth Newbern; and assistant secretary-treasurer, Tonja Quidley.

Awards were presented by the District Winners who took their competitions to the State Youth Convention in May. These awards were made possible by the sponsoring body of that particular competition.

Children's Home

PREPARATION FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

Parker House

The administration and staff of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home are working hard to plan, prepare, and implement a new program that will be offered to residents of the Home and to the community. This program will be among the many services offered at the Children's Home. Plans are to open the Parker House as an Independent Living Facility that will accommodate 4-5 students.

The program is designed to prepare young people, ages 15 and older, to learn Independent Living Skills and prepare them for independent living on their own. Each participant in the Independent Living Program will go through what we call levels: Level I, Level II, Level III and Level IV. In each level the young person is required to complete goals, tasks and assignments that will teach skills and knowledge for independent living. When the young person completes all tasks at one level he moves up, and with each level that he/she completes there are more privileges and, of course, more responsibilities. By the time the young person reaches Level IV he/she should be ready to move out into an apartment or other living arrangement of his own.

There will be a live-in supervisor who will assist and encourage each resident and see that they successfully complete all tasks at each level. Plans are to have regular group meetings, group planning and group discussion. There will be workshops and seminars conducted by different agencies and companies, such as insurance, banking, auto sales, family planning, etc., that will help the young person learn more about community services, what services are offered, and how to go about asking for assistance.

Plans are to begin the program within the next couple of weeks. There is still a lot of necessary items needed to complete the project before the young people move in.

Just recently, Mrs. Rebecca Davenport and the Reedy Branch Church Sunday School donated brand new curtains and matching bedspreads to the Children's Home. Two sets were placed in the Independent Living House and the other sets were distributed among the other two cottages. The kids were thrilled and surprised when they came from school and saw the curtains and bedspreads. These were greatly needed and appreciated. We are in need of some furniture for the Independent Living house, such as coffee tables, chairs, sofas, pictures, and drapes for the living room and den. Only with your support and prayers can we continue to provide good, quality child care for our children. All children are given a chance from above to be touched by love and to know that someone cares. The Free Will Baptists show their concern and love through our ministry at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. Thank you for your support and prayers.

CLOSED

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and all Bible Bookstores—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston, and Whiteville closed for Thanksgiving, November 24, 1983.

RETIREMENT HOMES

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS OCTOBER, 1983
Total $2,224.41

ALBEMARLE	
Mount Zion	$ 50.00
Sidney	70.77
Total	$120.77
CAPE FEAR	
Robert's Grove	$ 50.00
Smithfield, First	75.00
Total	$125.00
CENTRAL	
Edgewood	$ 5.00
Friendship	500.00
Howell Swamp	25.00
Marlboro	340.00
Rocky Mount, First	40.00
Total	$910.00
EASTERN	
Bridgeton	$ 27.00
Davis	100.00
Macedonia	300.00
Westside	150.00
Total	$577.00
PEE DEE	
Mount Calvary	$ 75.00
Total	$ 75.00
PIEDMONT	
High Point	$ 79.14
Total	$ 79.14
WESTERN	
Free Union	$ 25.00
Friendship	200.00
People's Chapel	25.00
Piney Grove	62.50
Sherron Acres	25.00
Total	$337.50

COMING EVENTS

November—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Children's Home Month

November 17—The Board of Directors of the Children's Home will meet at 7 p.m., in Memorial Chapel Church, Middlesex

November 22—Board of Trustees, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, 9:30 a.m.

November 22—Founders Day, Rodgers Chapel, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, 11 a.m.

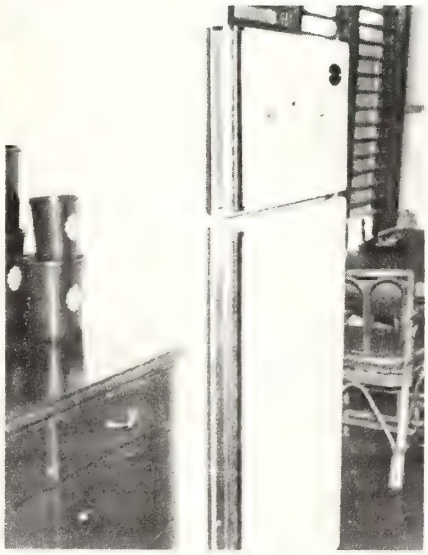
November 24—Thanksgiving Day

NEW REFRIGERATOR-FREEZER

Maintaining a home for the Bakers and Barnards in the Philippines is basically the same as for you in the States. Because we do have electricity in our homes, we enjoy the services of a refrigerator, washing machine, mixer and fans. We praise the Lord for these conveniences which add to the comfort of our families and lessen the work load of our wives.

Linda Baker and new refrigerator

Just as you experience in the States, sometimes some of these household items become nonfunctional and unrepairable. Replacement or to do without are the only two options. None of us look with great favor on that time because it is always expensive.



New refrigerator-freezer for Bakers

A few months before the Baker family went home to the States on furlough in 1982, our refrigerator stopped and could not be repaired. We chose not to replace it until after we returned from furlough. That was quite an experience, living without a refrigerator.

Since returning home to the Philippines in June 1983, the mission has purchased a new refrigerator-freezer combination for the Baker family. It was purchased in Manila and then shipped to our home in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan. We are enjoying this new appliance very much.

The refrigerator-freezer is a fifteen-cubic-foot with the freezer on top and the refrigerator on the bottom. It is white in color. The name brand is White-Westinghouse and it is made here in the Philippines. Total cost was seven hundred and forty dollars plus forty dollars for shipping it to Palawan.

We are very thankful to the Selma Church Ladies Auxiliary and church members who, having heard we were in need of a refrigerator-freezer, raised four hundred dollars and fifty cents to apply to this project. This outstanding gift greatly lightened the burden of this purchase. We appreciate their gift and concern so very much.

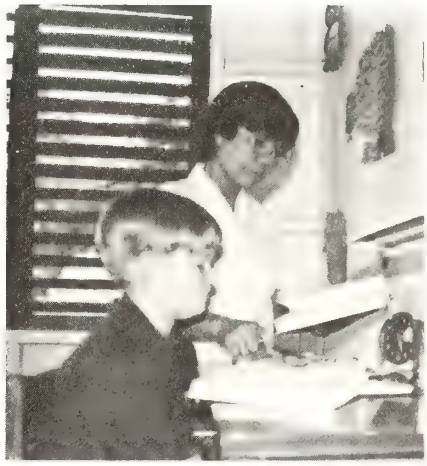
We stand truly amazed at the wisdom of our God. He teaches us that we, the believer, are the body of Christ. Each member of the body has a part to do. Then the job is easily completed without a great burden being placed on any one member. Isn't that great? Thank you, brothers and sisters, at Selma Church for doing your part.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Baker

SCHOOL TIME

Ding-dong, ding-dong, ding-dong; school time, get in your seats. Quiet please.

On September 19, 1983, Kim and Stevie started school. We were planning to start at the first of September. Our plans were delayed because of my sickness and the late arrival of the school books from the States.



Stevie Baker and Mrs. Elsie E. Carpeso

We are thankful to God for answered prayer in providing a Filipino teacher. Thank each one of you so much who helped us to pray for this. The teacher, Mrs. Elsie E. Carpeso, is a college graduate, married and has five children. Mrs. Carpeso has experience as a high school teacher. We are very pleased with her and her work.

Kim Baker and Mrs. Elsie E. Carpeso

The Filipino teacher greatly lessens my work load. My responsibility now is to supervise. I check their papers to see how they are progressing. I also help when there is something they don't understand.

Kim is thirteen years old in the eighth grade, and Stevie is

(Continued on Page 15)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DINNER

The final college dinner of the year is scheduled on Saturday, November 19. M.N. (Tom) Caroon is chairman of the Pamlico County dinner. The dinner will be held at Camp Vandemere, Vandemere. The goal is $6,200.

Both attendance and gift support are up at the college dinners. Continued support is vital for the development of the four-year program.

CHURCH VISITS BY COLLEGE PERSONNEL

Sunday, November 20

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president, will be at Rose of Sharon Church, near Robersonville. He will teach the Sunday school classes at 10 a.m. and speak at the 11 a.m. worship service. The Rev. Reb Lancaster is pastor.

COMING EVENTS AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Open to the Public

November 22	Founders Day Service, 11 a.m., Rodgers Chapel, the Rev. N. B. Barrow, speaker
December 6	*Messiah*, by Handel, 8 p.m., First Baptist Church performed by the Mount Olive College Concert Choir, Free Will Baptist Choral Society and volunteers from the Mount Olive community.
January 7	Grand Opening for College Hall, 10:30 a.m., Governor James B. Hunt, Jr., speaker.

TRUSTEE NAMED AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

W. P. Kemp Sr., of Goldsboro, has been named to a six-year term on the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees. Kemp will succeed Mrs. Kemp whose term expires November 30.

The newly elected trustee has been active in civic affairs since 1931. He has held offices in the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, Community Chest and the Boy Scouts of America. As holder of the Silver Antelope Award, Kemp is the most highly decorated scouter in the Tuscarora Council.

From 1953-1955, Kemp was the Wayne County Representative in the North Carolina House of Representatives. In 1958, he was appointed to the North Carolina Board of Mental Health. He is now the senior member of the Mental Health Commission.

In 1971, Kemp retired from active participation in the furniture business. He had been president of Kemp Furniture Company and served as chairman of the Board.

Two trustees have been renamed to the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees: Mrs. Frank L. Walston, of Walstonburg, and John M. Hines, of Kinston. These Board members will also serve a six-year term.

ADMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVE TO VISIT HIGH SCHOOLS

Don Hargrove will visit high schools during the Post Secondary Opportunity Sessions. Students are invited to discuss their college plans with Don during the following days and times.

November 18

Nash County, Northern Nash High School, 8:30 a.m.

November 21

Moore County, North Moore High School, 8:30 a.m.

Montgomery County, East Montgomery High School, 10:30 a.m. (East and West Montgomery High Schools)

Anson County, Bowman High School, 1:30 p.m.

Richmond County, Richmond County High School, 7:00 p.m.

November 22

Moore County, Union Pines High School, 8:30 a.m.; Pinecrest High School, 10:30 a.m.; Scotland High School, 7:00 p.m.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 7)

the sponsoring body of that particular competition.

Field Day activities are being planned for the future for the district. The Rev. Bobby Brown offered to help plan these activities and invited the district to his church for this event.

All churches were asked to work hard to raise the needed money for the State Youth Project which is a portable stage for College Hall. The goal for the Albemarle District is $500. Shiloh pledged to give $100 and challenged the other churches to do the same.

Singspiration time was led by Kathy Cahoon and followed by a program given by Sound Side Church. Young people from the church performed a skit on the choice of receiving and denying salvation.

The next meeting of the Albemarle District Youth Fellowship Convention will be held April 2, 1984, at the same location. Competitions will be held for judging to find out the eligible entries for the State Youth Convention.

Central District Youth to Meet

The Central District Youth Fellowship will meet November 19, 1983, at 7:30 p.m., at Winterville Church. The Winterville AFC will present the program called "I Am a Promise." Everyone is invited to attend.

The January meeting will be held January 21, 1984, at Hickory Grove Church.

Now is a good time to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

Woman's Auxiliary

Treasurer's Report, End of Second Quarter, October 31, 1983

Balance Brought Forward, July 31, 1983			$ 5,565.23
Receipts			
General Fund:			
Per Capita Dues	$ 10.00		
Interest	316.97		
Promotional Fund (CSF)	163.63		
Life Award Fees	30.00	$ 520.60	
Denominational Enterprises		20,381.82	
Total Receipts			20,902.42
Total for which to Account			$26,467.65
Disbursements			
Convention Expenses and Allocations		$ 464.93	
Denominational Enterprises		20,381.82	
Total Disbursed			$20,846.75
Balance to Account for, October 31, 1983			$ 5,620.90
Summary			
Branch Banking and Trust Company (checking)		$ 2,620.90	
Mount Olive College Bonds		3,000.00	
Total		$ 5,620.90	

Denominational Enterprises Report

	Itemize	Received	Disbursed
Home Missions (State Project)	$	$ 1,937.87	$ 1,937.87
Foreign Missions			
General Fund	4,191.94		
Mexico	150.00		
Palawan Library	15.00		
Press Building in Philippines	236.00		
India Pastor	60.00		
Bibles for India	40.00		
Fred Baker	112.58		
State Project (Missionary Wives)	936.38	5,741.90	5,741.90
Mount Olive College			
General Fund	165.00		
Alice Lupton Scholarship	56.00		
Anna Phillips Student Aid	273.00		
Library	20.00		
State Project (Dishwasher)	586.82	1,185.82	1,185.82
Children's Home			
General Fund (State Project)	1,451.16		
Child Support	200.00		
Clothing	100.00		
Music Lessons	15.00		
Linens	131.00	1,897.16	1,897.16
Superannuation		429.84	429.84
Cragmont Assembly		6,569.69	6,569.69
Retirement Homes, Inc.		920.00	920.00
Life Award Fees (Children's Home)		75.00	75.00
Central Conference Missions		145.00	145.00
Carolina Bible Institute		6.86	6.86
*Christian Service Fund			
Missions	327.26		
Mount Olive College	327.26		
Children's Home	245.45		
Cragmont	245.45		
Superannuation	163.63		
Retirement Homes	163.63	1,472.68	1,472.68
Total		$20,381.82	$20,381.82

*10 percent retained for promotional (see receipts $163.63)

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, *Treasurer*

ELM GROVE CHURCH SPONSORS EVANGELISTIC CONFERENCE

An Evangelistic Conference, to be held at Elm Grove Church, Ayden, is announced for November 16-18. The purpose of these meetings is to receive the inspiration of Christ through the preaching of God's Word. It is hoped that this conference will be continued in the coming years. The pastor, the Rev. Steve Hargrove, and the members of Elm Grove Church invite ministers and congregations of other churches to attend and to pray for the success of this mission.

Wednesday, November 16

7:30—Opening Hymn, Dean Kennedy
—Invocation
—Special Singing
7:45—Message, David Ricks
8:15—Congregational Hymn, Dean Kennedy
—Special Singing
8:30—Message, Steve Hargrove

Thursday, November 17

7:30—Opening Hymn, Dean Kennedy
—Invocation
—Special Singing
7:45—Message, Bruce Jones
8:15—Congregational Hymn, Dean Kennedy
—Special Singing
8:30—Message, Reb Lancaster

Friday, November 18

7:30—Opening Hymn, Dean Kennedy
—Invocation
—Special Singing
7:45—Message, Clifford Ball
8:15—Congregational Hymn, Dean Kennedy
—Special Singing
8:30—Message, Mike Scott

The offerings each night will go to the Children's Home and to Cragmont. Refreshments will be served after the services.

THANK YOU

To our many friends, who through their many graces, spoke to us, through flowers, telephone calls, visits, and food brought to the house; and most of all, your good wishes, and prayers during the funeral time of our loved one.

The Family of Nina H. Beaman

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Scripture Reading—Colossians 1, 2

THIS IS MORE THAN YOU DESERVE!

A farmer's wife in Iowa worked hard to prepare good, wholesome meals for a gang of men who worked in the fields. Coming into the dining room from their work, they would sit down and wolf the food without thanking either God or the one who had prepared it. "I'll teach those ingrates a lesson," said the woman to herself. One day she put hay and oats on the large dining room table. "What does this mean?" angrily demanded the hungry men as they approached the table. "Some practical joke you have played on us!" they said. "This is no joke! This is more than you deserve! During the hot days of the summer I have done my best to give you good, wholesome food, but not one of you has uttered a word of thanks to God or to me!" said the brave woman.

Who without prayer sits down to eat,
And without thanks then leaves the tables,
Tramples the gifts so good with feet,
And is like mule and ox in stable!

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Scripture Reading—Colossians 3, 4

BUT WHERE ARE THE NINE?

I meant to go back, but you may guess
I was filled with amazement I cannot express
To think that after those horrible years,
That passion of loathing and passion of fears,
By sores unendurable—eaten, defiled—
My flesh was as smooth as the flesh of a child.
I was drunken with joy; I was crazy with glee;
I scarcely could walk and I scarcely could see,
For the dazzle of sunshine where all had been black; . . .
But I meant to go back,—oh, I meant to go back!
I had thought to return, when my people came out.
There were tears of rejoicing and laughter and shout;
They embraced me,—for years I had not known a kiss;
Ah, the pressure of lip is an exquisite bliss!
They crowded around me, they filled the whole place;
They looked at my feet and my hands and my face;
My children were there, my glorious wife,
And all the forgotten allurements of life.
My cup was so full I seemed nothing to lack! . . .
But I meant to go back,—oh, I meant to go back!

When we bless God for mercies, we prolong them. When we bless God for miseries, we usually end them. Praise is the honey of life which a devout heart extracts from every bloom of providence and grace.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians 1, 2

OH, HOW MUCH WE OWE!

When this passing world is done,
When has sunk yon glorious sun,
When we stand with Christ in Glory,
Looking o'er life's finished story:
Then, Lord, shall I fully know,
Not till then, how much I owe.

When I stand before the Throne,
Dressed in beauty not my own,
When I see Thee as Thou art,
Love Thee with unsinning heart:
Then, Lord, shall I fully know,
Not till then, how much I owe.

E'en on earth, as through a glass,
Darkly, let Thy Glory pass;
Make forgiveness feel so sweet,
Make Thy Spirit's help so meet;
E'en on earth, Lord, make me know,
Something of how much I owe.

Chosen not for good in me,
Wakened up from wrath to flee;
Hidden in the Saviour's side,
By the Spirit sanctified;
Teach me, Lord, on earth to show,
By my love, how much I owe.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians 3, 4

ONE THING MORE—A GRATEFUL HEART!

In honoring the memory of their son who was killed in World War II, the parents gave a sizable check to their church. When the presentation was made, a mother whispered to her husband, "Let's give the same amount for our boy!" "What are you talking about?" asked the husband, "our boy didn't lose his life!" "Ah," said the wife, "that's just the point! Let's give it as an expression of our gratitude to God for sparing his life!"

George Herbert prayed: "Our Father, Thou hast given us so much. Do please give us one more thing—a grateful heart!"

How blessed we are, no matter what our condition may be, if we have a grateful heart!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians 5

A THANKSGIVING PRAYER

For those who bravely dared to face
The wolf-fangs of the sea,
To find a land where they might dwell
In faith and liberty.
For pioneers who blazed the trails
And broke the virgin sod
With strength and spirit, firm and sure,
Today, we thank thee, God!
For ancestors with a vision
As wide and deep and high
And as filled with stars of promise
As the eternal sky,
For health and homes and country
And laughter, sweet and gay,
For all of these—and love and faith
We thank thee, God, today!

Praise changes things. Praise changes you. Try it! A song of praise in the prison of gloom or depression can open its doors: "And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God . . . and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed" (Acts 16:25, 26).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Scripture Reading—2 Thessalonians 1-3

WHERE TO FIND GRATITUDE

A businessman said, "People are ingrates. It took me 61 years to find it out. I have 175 employees, men and women. At Thanksgiving, I sent them 175 choice turkeys. Only four thanked me. Two thanked me by notes and two said, 'Thank you' when they chanced to meet me in the hall. Because of their thanklessness, I've decided never to go out of my way to be nice again."

Someone has said, "If you want to find gratitude, look for it in the dictionary. The reward of giving comes from the good feeling it gives the giver. Don't expect any other returns."

Thou hast given so much to me,
Give one thing more—a grateful heart,
Not thankful when it pleaseth me,
As if Thy blessings had spare days,
But such a heart
Whose pulse may be Thy praise.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 1, 2

IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS

For all that God in mercy sends—
For health and children, home and friends;
For comforts in the time of need,
For every kindly word and deed,
For happy talks and holy thoughts;
For guidance in our daily walk—
In everything give thanks!

For beauty in this world of ours,
For verdant grass and lovely flowers,
For song of birds, for hum of bees,
For the refreshing summer breeze,
For hill and plain, for stream and wood,
For the great ocean's mighty flood—
In everything give thanks!

For the sweet sleep which comes with night,
For the returned morning light,
For the bright sun that shines on high,
For the stars glittering in the sky—
For these and everything we see,
O Lord, our hearts we lift to Thee;
In everything give thanks!

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

Sunday School Lesson

For November 20

GOD'S CALLED-OUT PEOPLE

Lesson Text: Colossians 3:1-3; 4:5, 6; 1 Peter 2:9-17

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 2:9

I. INTRODUCTION

Jesus brought a new covenant (Hebrews 12:24). He established a church (Matthew 16:18), which was a new thing. But no one thought it necessary to invent new names for things associated with the church.

Twelve men Jesus chose as His representatives were called *apostles* (Luke 6:13). That was not a new name, but an everyday word. It means one who is sent, and it is so translated in John 13:16. In 2 Corinthians 8:23 and Philippians 2:25 it does not refer to the twelve, and so to keep from confusing us the translators used *messenger* instead of *apostle* in those verses. Leading officials of the church were called *elders* (Acts 14:23; 20:17). That was an ordinary word for older men, and it is so translated in Acts 2:17. Those officials were also called *bishops* (1 Timothy 3:1, 2). That was a common name for superintendents or overseers, and it is translated *overseers* in Acts 20:28.

Other officials were called *deacons* (1 Timothy 3:8; Philippians 1:1). That was the ordinary name for a servant of any kind, and the word is translated *servant* in Matthew 22:13; 23:11; and John 2:5.

Likewise the name of the church was taken from everyday language. It was called *ekklesia*. That was what the Greeks called their town meeting. In time the word came to mean almost any gathering of people. In Acts 19 it is used both of the lawful assembly (v. 39) and of a riotous mob (vv. 32, 41).

Though taken from the ordinary heathen vocabulary, this was a good name for Christ's church. *Ekklesia* is made from *ek*, out, and *kaleo*, call. It means people who are called out. People of a Greek city were called out of their homes to the town meeting they named *ekklesia*. Christians are called out of the godless world, called to be separate, different (2 Corinthians 6:14-18). That does not mean we are to isolate ourselves or consider our neighbors untouchable. We may have friends who are not Christians (1 Corinthians 10:27). The idea is not to be utterly cut off from the world; it is to refuse to share the evil of the world (John 17:15).

Many students have noted that Paul liked to plant the gospel in a big city, from which it could spread into the surrounding area. His work at Ephesus is a good example of that plan in action. Ephesus was a big city, important in government, commerce, religion, and amusement. People from the mountain country east of it must have liked to spend a winter vacation in that city by the sea. They could visit the beach, the theater, the world-famous temple of Diana. And the time came when they could get acquainted with something new, Christianity, and go back home to tell about it.

Paul spent about three years in Ephesus (Acts 20:31). The gospel made a tremendous impact there, as we see in the nineteenth chapter of Acts. Furthermore, the good news spread out from Ephesus so that "all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 19:10). This Asia was not the great continent we now call by that name. It was a province on the western end of Asia Minor (modern Turkey), and Ephesus was located on the western end of that province. Asia was about as big as the state of Ohio, but still the spread of the gospel was remarkable.

Colossae was one of the inland cities of Asia. Colossians 2:1 seems to indicate that Paul himself had not visited either it or the neighboring town of Laodicea, but he knew the people who had taken the gospel there. He was concerned about the church, as he was about all the churches. Some six years after he left Ephesus, Paul then a prisoner, sent a letter to the Ephesians and another to the Colossians. The first part of our text is from that letter to the Colossians.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A. Some years ago a little church on the coast of England was ruined by a hurricane. The congregation thought themselves unable to rebuild. Then one day a representative of the British Navy came to the minister to ask if they intended to reconstruct the church. The minister explained why they could not do it. "Well," said the representative, "if you do not rebuild the church, we will. That steeple is on all our charts and maps. It is the landmark by which the ships of the seven seas steer their course."

B. A little boy, having been told that the church was God's house, asked: "When's He going to move in?"

C. "A church is not measured in greatness by the beauty of its architecture or the ability of its ministry, but by the people who live truly and serve faithfully that for which it stands."—John Bunyan

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 2)

The writer of the old hymn "Have You Any Room for Jesus?" understood this problem, for he wrote:

Room for pleasure, room for business
But, for Christ the crucified,
Not a place that He can enter
In the heart for which He died.

Now before you protest, ask yourself isn't the problem really with what is important to us, not the amount of time we have? If we are honest, we will have to admit that we have all the time we need.

OSCAR WEBSTER

(Continued from Page 6)

V. HE KEPT THE FAITH WITH HIS CHURCH

Why—right out of the hospital and right to his church he went last Sunday.

In his church at Trinity Free Will Baptist, he served well and long. He was the chairman of the deacon board, Sunday school teacher and a member of the choir.

Some of the members made the following statements:

"What will we do?" "He was a good man." "Every time we did anything at the church or had a work-day, you could always find Brother Oscar at the church doing his part."

VI. HE WAS FAITHFUL TO HIS CONFERENCE

He served for many years as the clerk of the Albemarle Conference of Original Free Will Baptists.

VII. HE WAS FAITHFUL TO HIS CONVENTION

At the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, Oscar Webster was always present. He always had an input and always kept you on your toes for the business at hand.

Our Convention elected him to serve on the Board of Directors of our Children's Home. There he served for years.

Brother Oscar served many boards and committees of the Convention.

He was the Chairman for the Mount Olive College annual dinner in his district. He will be missed, for he always was there and always was well organized and always had his people present.

VIII. HE WAS FAITHFUL TO SERVE WITH THE MINISTERS

He led people to love and respect the leaders of the flock. That's why we cared for him so.

I always found Brother Oscar to be a man who stood, to the best of his ability, for that which was right.

He believed if you were for or against something that you should stand and be counted. He did!

Oscar Webster wanted to be used of God, and he was.

In 2 Kings one can read the interesting conversation of Elijah, shortly before his departure from the earth.

With his young son in the faith, Elisha, the elderly prophet says "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." The young man replied, "I pray you, let me inherit a double portion of your spirit."

The sweetest words which one could ever hear, the most beautiful benediction that could conclude a life, the most coveted epitaph that could grace one's farewell would be the words of the master when he said, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: Thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: Enter thou into the joys of the Lord."

Oh the beauty of the sunset of a life like that of Brother Oscar Webster!

What an example!

What a faithful man!

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 9)

ten in the fifth grade. They are studying the same subjects as the children in the states.

School begins each morning at eight o'clock. Everyone enjoys a fifteen-minute break from 10:00 until 10:15. Then at 11:45 they stop for lunch. The children start back to work in the afternoon and work until finished with their day's work. Kim and Stevie are happy not to have any schoolwork at night.

This school year we are using some additional handouts to add variety. They are about America, seasons, and holidays. These are mostly for Stevie. He is enjoying them so far.

We put up a bulletin board in the upstairs hallway about school beginning. One of the pictures is a picture of Snoopy. He says on the picture, "As a rule, school is cool." The children especially like this picture.

We still have one special need for this school year. School needs to be completed in seven months instead of the regular nine months. Fred and I will be going to language school in Manila next year. The children will attend Faith Academy while we are in Manila. So for these reasons, we need to finish school in seven months. Please put this on your prayer list.

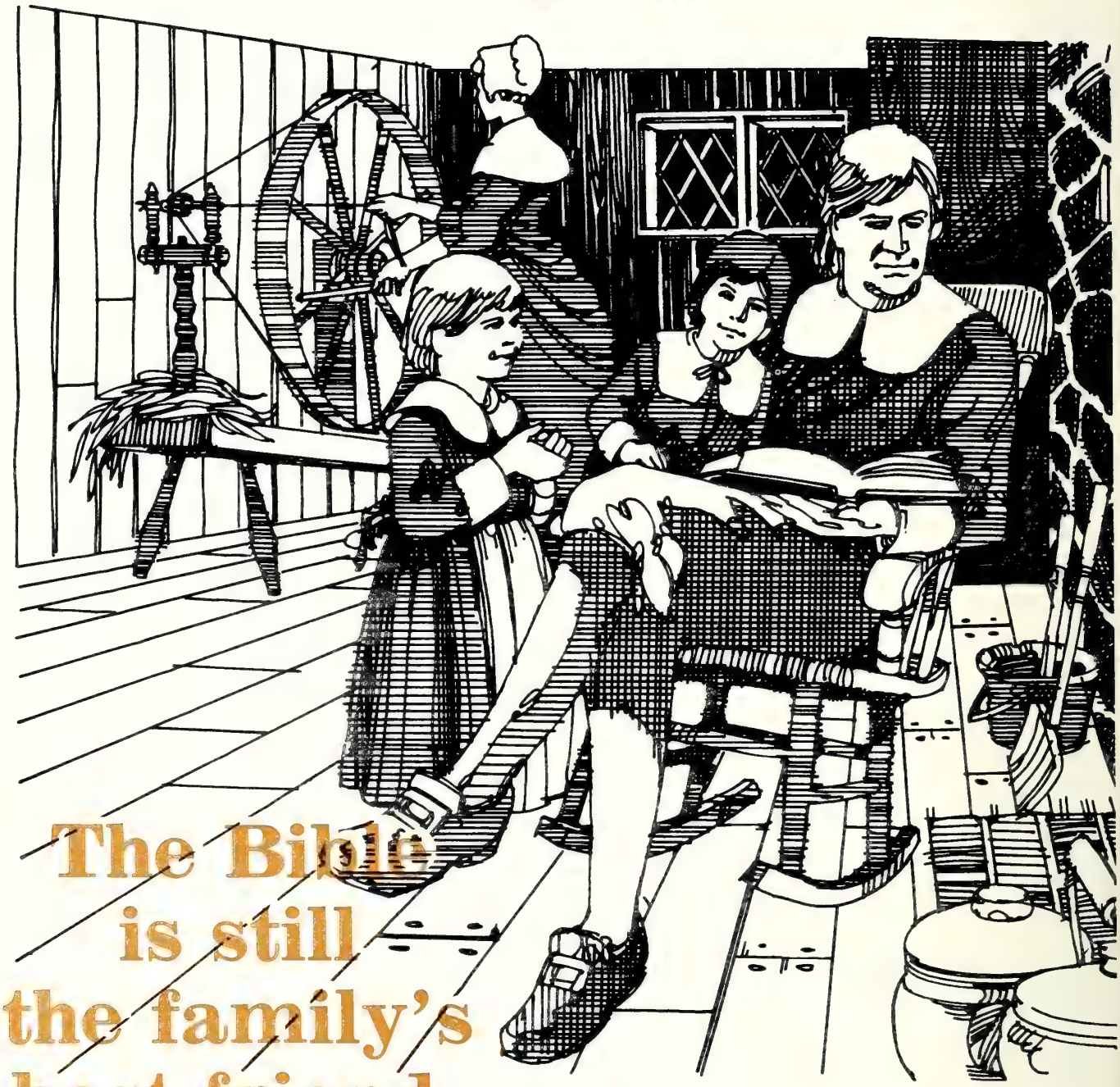
Thank each of you so much for your prayers for Kim's and Stevie's schooling. Please keep this in your prayers.

Linda Baker

IMPORTANT REMINDER

All materials for publication in the *1984 Yearbook* **must** be in the hands of the Editorial Department by December 12, 1983. Absolutely none will be accepted after that date.

Janie Sowers, *Editor*



The Bible is still the family's best friend.

Clip the coupon below and receive a 25% discount off the suggested retail price of all Bibles in stock. See details on the coupon.

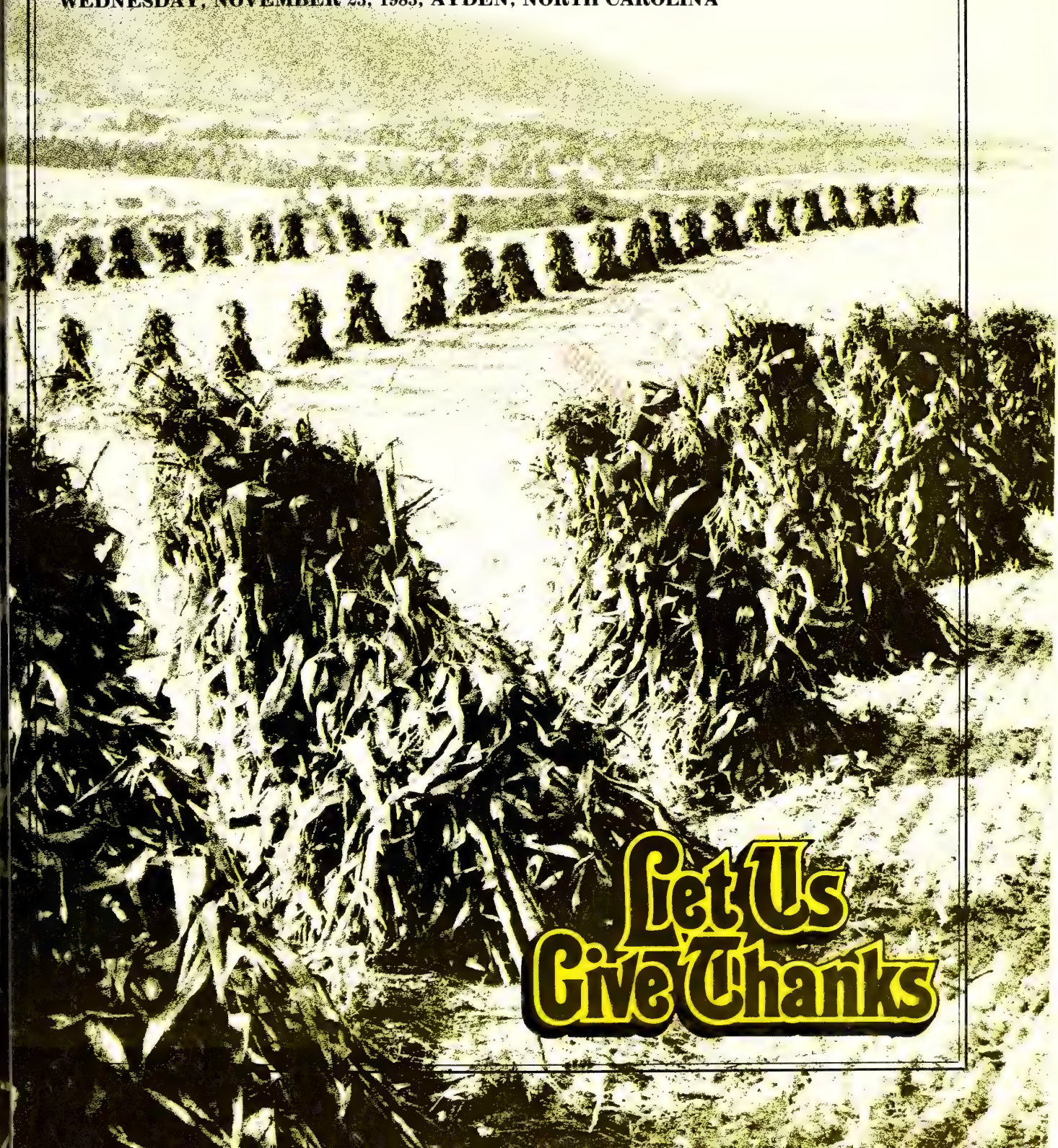
COUPON

The bearer of this coupon qualifies for a 25% discount off the suggested retail price of all Bibles in stock. (Coupon good only at the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation in Ayden and its branch bookstores in Wilson, Smithfield, New Bern, Whiteville, and Kinston; November 25, 26, 1983.)

Div. Sch.
(P) FR57WB

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 98 Number 44

November 23, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

Edited and published forty-eight times a year by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158. Second-class postage paid at Ayden, North Carolina (USPS 209-440).

All materials to be placed in any issue must be in the hands of the editor seven days prior to the publication date of that issue.

The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

All subscriptions are payable in advance: one year, $8.84; two years, $16.12; four years, $31.20 (including sales tax for North Carolina residents); residents of other states, $8.50, $15.50 and $30 respectively (plus sales tax where it applies).

Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, Smithfield, and Whiteville, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

Board of Directors

Dewey Boling, President; C. Felton Godwin, Vice President; Ruth Taylor, Secretary; Adrian Grubbs, Assistant Secretary; Robert May; Eddie Edwards; Marice DeBruhl; James Billy Hardee; De Wayne Eakes; David W. Hansley, Chairman Emeritus.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.: Cliff Gray, **Executive Director;** Janie Jones Sowers, **Editor of Literature.**

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving: a religious "holy day" seasoned with a secular flavor; Pilgrims in their newly adopted homeland giving thanks for divine goodness; baskets brimming with a harvested bounty; love's labors admired; paying homage to the land and to the wonders of nature; folded, praying hands giving thanks for the blessings received during the past twelve months; Indian corn decorations and fallen leaves swirling in the wind; travels to home sanctuaries, all the relatives relating, hearts touched and loves rekindled; a treasury of remembered blessings built on happy talk of happy times; the special aromas that drag one to the kitchen and encourage—compel—us to lift lids and sample; drumsticks, stuffing and traditional treats heaped on the table—then on plates—then stretched out torsoes; hopeful wishing on the wishbone; a day's ordinary business forgotten in the coincidence of celebration; being thankful for the best of all possible worlds; a warm, comfortable condition of the body, mind, and soul.

This week brings us Thanksgiving and a reminder that it isn't, really, just one day of the year, set aside by Presidential proclamation. It's for every day. Yes, turkey every day would become quite monotonous, but the giving of thanks can be for any time and any hour—and should be.

I am grateful for much this year, and each day for something more. Sometimes, though, it's a negative attitude, for when a day or job's been difficult, I'm glad when it ends; but glad, too, that in all probability I'll open my eyes, after sleep, on a new one.

I am thankful for Thanksgivings past, for this one, and for those to come. I am grateful for collected memories and for the tide which takes me toward the Source of all being.

The legacy of Thanksgiving is gratitude, the harvest is love.

Thanksgiving is a way of being.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

Author unknown

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing,
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;
The wicked oppressing cease them from distressing,
Sing praises to His name, He forgets not His own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining
Ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;
So from the beginning the fight we were winning,
Thou, Lord, wast at our side,—the glory be thine!

We all do extol Thee, Thou Leader in battle,
And pray that Thou still our Defender wilt be.
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised. O Lord, make us free!

Amen.

Faith Mission Becomes a Church

The Faith Original Free Will Baptist Mission of Leland, North Carolina, on old Highway 74 and 76, became a church on October 18, at 7:30 p.m.

The mission was first organized in the early 1970's with the Rev. O. B. Everett. There has been a long hard road but the mission finally made it into a church. Other pastors have served there too.

The pastor of the church now is the Rev. Roger Heath. Everyone from the church wishes to thank anyone who helped to make the mission into a church and all the people who attended on October 18.

Home Missions Board to Meet

The Home Missions Board will meet December 2, at Three Steers Restaurant, Greenville. The time of the meeting is 7 p.m.

Series on Holy Spirit at Sidney

Starting on November 9, at 7 p.m. Sidney Church will host a series of teachings on the Holy Spirit. The topic is vital and significant to all believers living in these last days. Through the Holy Spirit one receives the powers (Acts 1:8) that enable one to carry on Jesus' ministry and to proclaim the gospel to all mankind.

Each meeting of the six-week series will be held on consecutive Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. at the church. The church is located on Route 2, Belhaven, at Sidney Cross Roads.

Religious Heritage Award Goes To North Carolina Governor

Washington, D.C.—Governor James B. Hunt Jr., the state's first two-term Governor, received the prestigious Religious Heritage award during ceremonies on October 10.

The award, presented by George Romney, Religious Heritage Board Member and former Governor of Michigan, during the 33rd Annual Religious Heritage Convention, was in the business and professional category.

Religious Heritage of America, a non-profit organization, announced that the award was presented to Governor Hunt, "because he by his practical application of the principles of his religious faith and of America's religious heritage in daily life, both professional and private, has made a significant impact for good on a national basis and of sufficient magnitude that his actions should be recognized nationally."

As stated in the awards program, "Throughout his political career, Governor Hunt has reserved Sundays for his family. Governor and Mrs. Hunt, along with their children, attend church school and worship regularly. They have been careful in the instruction of their children in Christian principles and in prayer and devotion. As active church members, the entire family participates in church-sponsored ministries and projects to serve other people.

"As a public official, Governor Hunt has maintained the balance between personal religious convictions and separation of church and state. With a religious faith, he views the state as what it can be at its best. He operates with moral conviction and brings personal devotion to the decisions he makes each day. He has served North Carolina and the nation well. And, he has shown that a person of religious faith can serve effectively in his chosen profession."

Since 1951, Religious Heritage of America has recognized individuals who have upheld the religious traditions of America through their offices, or positions, and through their daily lives.

The Governor was accompanied to the Award presentation by his two ministers, the Rev. James McKinnon, pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Wilson, North Carolina and the Rev. Edward Pickard, pastor, White Memorial Presbyterian Church, Raleigh, North Carolina. Governor Hunt is a former member of Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Sims, North Carolina. His parents still attend there regularly.

Hunt is one of 25 people who received awards and is the only Governor among this year's recipients.

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME, INC.

"A Christian Home for Boys and Girls"
P.O. BOX 249
MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA 27557

Phone (919) 235-2161

Dear Fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Let us praise the Lord and rejoice in His loving mercy toward us all. We at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home have so much to be thankful for. One of our greatest blessings is you, our sponsors and supporters. God has truly blessed and enriched our lives through your concern and unfailing generosity. I am sure He has rewarded you for your devotion to Him and His works.

Because of your love and generosity we are ever striving to enrich the lives of young people in our care. With your faithful devotion, from the very start, you have been an everlasting tribute to the Children's Home, to all Free Will Baptists, and an even greater tribute to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Once again we are approaching the time of year when you can demonstrate your support, generosity, and love. We need funds to supply Christmas gifts to our children. There are several ways in which you as an individual, your Sunday School class, ladies' organizations, and men's organizations can be of invaluable assistance.

We are asking for a minimum of $80.00 per child. You can sponsor a particular child, or you can annotate your gift to be used for anyone. We would gladly supply you with names of children and their particular needs, so you may purchase gifts for them. For your convenience, we can purchase the gifts for you, and supply you with a receipt and an account of how your donation was spent.

Perhaps you, or your organization, would care to sponsor only one child, or maybe more than one. Just whatever you could do would be so greatly appreciated. Your expression of God's love can mean so much to a child, especially at this time of the year.

Should you not be able to contribute in a monetary way, please continue to keep us in your daily prayers. Whatever you do, do as unto the Lord and not to man.

For additional information concerning our Christmas Campaign, please contact us at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex, N.C. Our telephone number is (919)-235-2161, or write to us at P.O. Box 249, zip 27557.

May the God of love and mercy be ever present with you all!

In His Love,

Bill Watson, Houseparent
Christmas Chairman

Luke 6:38
"Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bossom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

OUR CHURCH SEMINAR—1983

Ministers and delegates attending the convention.

The ninth session of our church convention-cum-seminar was held at the Sat Tal Ashram on the foot of the Himalayan hills from September 27 to October 3, 1983. The pre-convention board meetings were held there on Monday, September 26, 1983.

In spite of the fact that there was great havoc caused by sudden flooding of the villages as well as an epidemic yet the gathering at the seminar was appreciable, numbering 39. Five of the delegates caught infection in their areas and no sooner they arrived at the Sat Tal they were confined to bed. One deacon, Ram Charan from Seondara circuit, came with high fever and had to be sent back the next day. Since there is no medical aid available at the Sat Tal Ashram we had taken precaution to carry along with us some patent medicines for those viral diseases, and the five ailing delegates were given medical aid. We praise God that four of the five sick delegates had returned completely cured. One young man was still sick when he left the Ashram. Report was received that by the time he had reached his village he was well.

It was a great time of fellowship, oneness and togetherness in the Lord Jesus Christ. Great inspiration was received by each of the participants in sharing the schedule of the seminar as in past years. The Spirit of Truth kept on guiding us during our stay at the seminar. What was greatly missed this time by all of us—the presence of our Director-Treasurer, the Rev. Harold Jones. Yet we felt that he was with us in spirit and prayers.

There were more singers this year and the devotional music as well as the congregational music was the source of great inspiration and enthusiasm. The fellowship service in the night before bedtime was shared with music. Tuesday, September 27, and Sunday, October 2, were the days that the fellowship service was arranged in music only. Brother Raja Joseph was in charge of these sessions.

The seminar was started with Holy Communion and the renewal of the spirit of each of those participating in this session. Dr. Lall brought the messages and taught the church doctrines. The study of New and Old Testaments was also of great interest. The role of laity in the church was fully explained and impressed. The need of evangelism was emphasized, and it was desired that we should not faint for this effort as it is the prime goal of our church denomination.

Holy Communion

The reports of ministers, deacons and laymen were encouraging and it was felt sure that the work of God is under progress in the area of our work, and that the involvement of our people in His vineyard is sincere and loyal to His cause. It was a matter of tremendous joy to all of us and we praise God for all that we have been able to accomplish so far. The Lord of miracles has always been with us is the faith of our preachers.

We salute the members of the Board of the Foreign Missions in North Carolina for their help and co-operation to make the Lord Jesus Christ known in this part of the world. This is not the time to dream of yesterday's triumphs or to flee from today's challenges. The banner of the Cross must be lifted high. The time to sound the call to service and to voice the note of victory is now!

Emmanuel L. Lall

SOME THINGS I AM LEARNING FROM THE H'MONG PEOPLE

by Bob Harber

I have been made to realize and experience the saying of Jesus: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." I am now experiencing this in the ministry to the H'mong refugees in America. I came here to Southern California to teach them, but I am the one who is learning and they are teaching me.

With a great deal of frustration I am learning to accept the H'mong concept of time. Seldom does a meeting start at the appointed time. Then, I remember that they just came from a culture where time was not measured by clocks, but by the sun. I have been in convention meetings that started at 7:30 a.m. and lasted until 11 p.m. I have conducted "question and answer" sessions that lasted for over three hours, stood on my feet until my legs were almost numb. I am beginning to learn patience as I deal with the H'mong concept of time.

I am now learning of the many things you don't have to have to have a church. You don't have to have a building; all four of our congregations meet in someone else's building—in Santa Ana the General Baptist building, in Banning the American Baptist building, in Fresno and Merced the United Methodist buildings. It sure is nice to have your own building, but it is not necessary to have a building to have a church. Then, I look at the "Early Church" and remember that during the time of its greatest growth there were no church buildings, but Christians met together wherever they could find a place. You don't have to have much music to have a church. In all the buildings where we meet for worship there are both pianos and organs, but we have no one to play either, but we sing and make a joyful noise to the Lord. You don't have to have choirs, special singers, musicians, etc. but just a willing mind to worship God. You don't have to have a great deal of printed materials, as I have seen many children's classes without any printed materials. We are trying to provide at least one piece of printed material for each child through your Home Missions efforts. You don't even have to have the printed Bible, as we do not have the entire Bible in the H'mong language. If we did many of our adults could not read it. Then, I remember that the "Early Church" did not have the New Testament, as it was in the process of being written, yet they had a growing, vibrant church. Two things are essential to have a church, people and the gospel—people who believe the gospel and join together to proclaim its message. In the midst of our abundance of things pertaining to the ministry of the church, let us never lose sight of the two essentials for the Real Church, people and the gospel. People who believe the gospel and believe that other people need the gospel.

The H'mong people have known much sorrow and difficulty. The sorrow and suffering of war, the sorrow of fleeing from their homeland, the struggle in the refugee camps, the separation of families to different parts of the world, the difficulties of settling in a new country with a different culture and a strange language. The youth of the Merced Church at our Youth Retreat there, October 22, 23, presented a play entitled: "Buying Shampoo Instead of Food" a humorous look at some of the difficulties faced when they first arrived in America, and people all over the building were laughing not only at the play but at themselves. The past few months have been the most difficult in my life, and the H'mong people are teaching me to laugh again. I have seen more smiles on the faces of H'mong Christians than I have on the faces of our American church people. We as Christians can experience joy in the midst of difficulty.

The H'mong people do not express love outwardly like we Americans. You never hear them say: "I love you," nor ever touch one of the opposite sex. I have learned to never extend my hand for a handshake to a lady first. At times, by American standards, I feel unloved by them. But their love runs deep, when my wife was killed each of the local congregations sent money to me, money they needed more than I did, but they said: "Pastor, we can't be with you, we just wanted to do something." Many of the ladies still talk about my wife and her love for their children. To be greeted by a teenager, with a big smile and hear him say: "Hi, pastor" is to be loved. To experience a firm friendly handshake by a man is to be loved. To see a smile and a nod of the head by a lady is to be loved. To have a small child come running to greet you is to be loved. I am learning that real Christian love runs deeper than outward emotions.

The leadership of the local congregations is now in the hands of younger men. The older men believe that the younger English-speaking men can do a better job of leading their churches in America and have been willing to relinquish leadership to them. The younger men have been willing to accept the responsibility. This is unlike many of our American churches where the established leadership is well

(Turn the Page)

entrenched and younger people are unwilling to accept responsibility. The H'mong youth have been willing to accept the responsibility of providing Sunday school for the children, in most cases without literature, which we are now trying to provide along with the establishment of Teacher Training courses. I am learning that youth will still accept the challenge of responsibility and this is most refreshing.

Out of necessity I have learned to trust my interpreter; I do not understand the H'mong language nor do many of the adults understand English. As I speak in English the interpreter stands by my side and speaks in H'mong. Is this not a good picture of the ministry of the Holy Spirit in our ministry. "One called to our side" to communicate with us and for us. Romans 8:26, "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." From this experience I am learning to trust the Holy Spirit more in my life and ministry.

Pray for me as I continue to learn from the H'mong people, hopefully some things I can share with our American churches. Pray that I might be able to share with the H'mong people some of the things I have learned from my American brothers and sisters in Christ. Thanks for giving me this opportunity to serve and to learn.

THANK YOU

The Original Free Will Baptist Mission at Grifton would like to express its appreciation by saying a very heartfelt thank you to those churches and individuals who participate by giving financially and prayerfully into the Home Missions program. Through the course of this past year, we have seen many accomplishments made. Those goals could not have been reached without your much-needed help. On our first Sunday at Grifton (October 24, 1982), the attendance was 21. We celebrated our first annual homecoming on October 16, 1983, with an attendance of 76. You are to be commended for your exercise of faith in God that was great enough to produce the planting of a church in the town of Grifton. Thank you and continue, as God will supply the increase.

James Sowers, *Pastor*

MEETING SCHEDULED

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will meet November 29, 1983. This meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Historical Room of Moye Library, located on the Mount Olive College campus.

All members are encouraged to attend.

ATHEISTS USE FAKE PETITIONS TO FOOL CHRISTIANS: MURRAY

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. (BP)—Atheists keep alive the RM 2493 petition rumor to make Christians look foolish, according to William J. Murray.

Murray, the son of America's best known atheist, Madelyn Murray O'Hair, is now a Christian and a Dallas minister.

He was in Oklahoma City recently and distributed a pamphlet, "Please Sign Here . . . The Great 2493 Fraud." In it, he says the American Atheist Center in Austin, Texas, continues to circulate a petition addressed to the Federal Communications Commission.

Murray alleges the fake petitions, which ask the FCC to deny an effort by O'Hair to ban all religious radio and television broadcasts, are printed by the atheists and circulated primarily in Baptist and Assembly of God churches and lately in Catholic churches as well.

Since 1975, more than 22 million of the fake petitions have been sent to the FCC even though the federal agency says O'Hair has never asked it to remove religious broadcasts from the air waves.

He says the tactic is designed to "Make Christians look foolish before the FCC which must approve applications for Christian radio and TV stations" an "issue to get even more free radio and TV time" for atheists.

Murray says, in reality, his mother does not want religious broadcasting off the air. "If it were removed, she could not demand free equal time," he said. The American Atheist Center has radio programs broadcast free throughout the nation, he noted.

"In addition, Mrs. O'Hair follows the religious leaders such as myself around the nation demanding free TV time from stations which broadcast our message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ," Murray noted.

Murray gives this advice: "Never sign any petition which does not have the name and address of the individual or group who sponsors it. None of the petitions titled '2493' has a name or address, just further proof that these are the work of the atheist groups."

—Reprinted from *Biblical Recorder*, November 12, 1983.

CHAIRS FOR COLLEGE HALL

Mount Olive College

A Convention Center for Original Free Will Baptists

Opening Date: January 7, 1984
Cost of Project: $3 Million
Attendance Capacity: 2,500
Bleachers and Balcony: 1,700
Chairs for Center Arena: 800
Cost Per Chair: $50

Because the chairs will be used primarily for convention-type meetings, each church is asked to buy as many chairs as it has delegates to the State Convention, plus chairs for the pastor and his wife, and one for a visitor.

Individuals are encouraged to buy a chair for each member of their family.

Recognizing that those attending conventions will be sitting in these chairs for long periods of time, many people urged the College to furnish College Hall with comfortable seating.

Among the special features of the chair chosen are a full seat, a sturdy back, arm rests, durability and capacity for storage.

We hope you will make your gift now so that these chairs can be ready for the "Grand Opening" on January 7.

Mail to Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365. Gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law.

OUR CHAIRS FOR COLLEGE HALL

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church _____

Number of Chairs _____ at $50 each

Amount of Gift $ _____

PARENTS MEET AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Some of the parents attending the meeting at the Henderson Building pose for pictures after the meeting. In the front row, left to right, Mrs. Rose Worley, Princeton; Mrs. Hugh Flowers, Lucama; Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Williamson, Wilson. In the back, left to right, Mrs. Lonnie Bell, Mount Olive; Hugh Flowers and Mrs. W. C. Massengill, Four Oaks.

"We hope that one of the prime things that will come out of this meeting is that we will better meet the academic, social and spiritual needs of our students. I extend my thanks for your coming and appreciate your having an interest in your children and the college." Dr. Raper made these remarks during a meeting with a group of parents.

The meeting was planned to explore ways that parents could help the college. The idea of forming a Parent's Council was discussed. Parents expressed a willingness to help with publicity, recruiting students and volunteering for special projects.

The group had lunch at the cafeteria before the meeting. After they met, Dr. Raper conducted a tour of College Hall for those interested.

The parents agreed to meet again on January 21, at 4 p.m., at the Pickle Classic.

Those parents who attended were: Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Williamson, Wilson; Mrs. Lonnie Bell, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Caroon, Lowland; Mr. and Mrs. O. K. Gainey, Havelock; Mr. and Mrs. Hugh M. Flowers, Lucama; Mrs. Rose Worley, Princeton and Mrs. W. C. Massengill, Four Oaks.

CHURCH VISITS BY COLLEGE PERSONNEL

Sunday, November 27

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be at British Chapel Church near Kinston. He will teach the 9:45 a.m. Sunday school classes and speak at the 11 a.m. worship service. The Rev. Robert Fader is pastor.

SINGING GROUPS TO PERFORM

Concert Choir: *December 6, Messiah,* by Handel, 11 a.m., Rodgers Chapel; and 8 p.m., First Baptist Church. The Concert Choir, Free Will Baptist Choral Society and volunteers from the Mount Olive community perform together.

December 24, "Christmas Carrousel," 11 p.m., WITN-TV.

Mount Olive Singers: *December 9,* Jim Burns Show, 11:30 a.m., WECT-TV.

ADMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVES VISIT SCHOOLS

Mount Olive College admissions representatives will be visiting high schools during the Post Secondary Opportunity Sessions. Students are invited to discuss their college plans with the representative during the following days and times.

November 28

Craven County, Havelock High School, 1:30 p.m., Dianne Riley

Carteret County, West Carteret High School, 7:00 p.m., Wesley Beddard (East and West Carteret High Schools)

November 29

Craven County, New Bern High School, 8:30 a.m., Wesley Beddard (West Bern City, West Craven, Jones, and Pamlico Counties High Schools)

Onslow County, Dixon High School, 1 p.m., Wesley Beddard

Jacksonville High School, 6:30 p.m., Wesley Beddard (Southwest Onslow, White Oak, Swansboro, Richlands, Camp Lejeune and Jacksonville High Schools)

November 30

Pender County, Pender High School, 10 a.m., Don Hargrove (Pender County and Topsail High Schools)

Columbus County, Acme-Delco High School, 1 p.m. Wesley Beddard (Acme-Delco and Hallsboro High Schools)

Duplin County, Wallace-Rose High School, 8:30 a.m., Don Hargrove

December 1

Columbus County, Whiteville High School, 8:30 a.m., Wesley Beddard

West Columbus High School, 10:30 a.m., Wesley Beddard

Township High School, 1 p.m., Wesley Beddard (Nakina, Tabor City and Williams Township High Schools)

VISITATION DAY FOR MINISTERS

All Free Will Baptist ministers, licensed and ordained, and their wives are invited to a special preview of College Hall on Monday, December 5.

An orientation session will be held in Rodgers Chapel, at 11 a.m. and will be followed by a guided tour of College Hall. Those who attend are also invited to be guests of the College for lunch at which there will be

(Continued on Page 15)

Cragmont

CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT OCTOBER, 1983

RECEIPTS

Albemarle Conference

St. Paul's	$ 20.00
Shiloh	20.00
Mt. Zion	54.45
Mt. Tabor	25.00
Hickory Chapel	573.90
Union Chapel	27.60
Sidney	38.64
Total	$ 759.59

Cape Fear Conference

Hopewell	$ 91.55
Lee's Chapel Fellowship Class	41.00
Haymount Mission	33.26
Palmer Memorial	94.91
Total	$ 260.72

Central Conference

Bethany	$ 500.00
Rose of Sharon Ladies Auxiliary	100.00
Winterville Free Will Baptist League	38.33
Daniels Chapel	300.00
Greenville Christian Service Woman's Auxiliary	20.00
Hugo	125.00
Tarboro, First	250.00
Gum Swamp	75.00
Free Union (Walstonburg)	10.00
Rocky Mount, First	50.00
Friendship (Walstonburg)	50.00
Fidelis Memorial Sunday School Class	10.00
Saratoga	50.00
King's Cross Roads	8.90
Black Jack	120.00
Winterville	52.50
Black Jack Girls Auxiliary	50.00
Spring Branch	175.00
Friendship (Farmville)	500.00
Total	$ 2,484,73

Eastern Conference

Oriental	$ 10.00
Arapahoe	330.00
St. Mary's (New Bern)	285.00
Pilgrims Rest	5.00
Jackson Heights	128.21
Croatan	50.00
Juniper Chapel	1,044.92
Total	$ 1,853.13

Piedmont Conference

White Hill	$ 25.00
Total	$ 25.00

Western Conference

Fremont	$ 250.00
Everett Chapel	50.00
Rosebud	37.50
Kenly, First	200.00
Stony Hill	165.00
Bridgeton	27.00
Flood's Chapel	10.00
Milbournie	37.50
Stoney Creek	2,000.00
Piney Grove (Kenly)	62.50
Marsh Swamp	197.00
Sherron Acres	242.00
Little Rock	200.00
Friendship	200.00
Free Union (Spring Hope)	25.00
Total	$ 3,703.50

Others

North Carolina State Convention Free Will Baptist Leagues	$ 53.94
Louise Edgerton	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Joyner	25.00
Bruce Waters	20.00
St. Cloud, First	5.00
Celia Hart Garris Class	25.00
Jean H. Moore	100.00
Rev. and Mrs. Gary Bailey	100.00
Mr. and Mrs. Winston D. Wooten	400.00
Reedy Branch (Memorial Gift)	1,000.00
Bethany (Memorial Gift)	10.00
Aspen Grove League (Memorial Gift)	10.00
Total	$ 1,773.94

Total Receipts	$10,860.61

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries	$ 3,366.92
Utilities	1,515.44
Food	1,576.71
Office Supplies	15.94
Store	80.80
Taxes	1,559.65
Insurance	43.50
Maintenance and Repairs	361.57
Gas Account	133.45
Mileage and Travel	115.00
Promotional	89.90
Miscellanous	9,805.44
Total	$18,644.32

Miscellaneous Disbursements

Chairs	$ 174.72
Transfer to Corp. Account	9,000.00
Purchase Heater	219.72
Purchase of Vending Machine	70.70
Repay Petty Cash	234.03
Repay Petty Cash	106.27
Total	$ 9,805.44

PLEASE NOTE

The State Sunday School Convention is taking applications for the position of Executive Secretary through December 31, 1983. (This position is part-time.) Interested persons should send their resumes to the Rev. Chris Singleton at the following address: Box 162, Beulaville, NC 28518.

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

The lesson for November 27, is on the mission of the church. Let me suggest some learning activities you could use for that lesson.

First, ask the class to read Matthew 28:18-20. Then ask them to answer this question, "If I really took this passage seriously, what would I have to do?"

Second, a good question to discuss from this lesson is, "How can we as a church and as individual Christians better witness for Christ in our community?" Be specific. Write their responses on the chalkboard. Decide what you will do with your answers.

Third, discuss how your class can grow. Ask the class to share the names of persons in the community or even in the church who could be potential members of your class. Discuss ways to reach out to these people. Make specific plans to contact them. Decide who will contact the various persons. Report on the results next session.

Fourth, use role-playing. The scene can be at work or school or some other appropriate place with which your class could readily identify. You will need two persons. One will play the role of a non-Christian. The other will assume the role of a Christian who seeks to witness to the non-Christian. Plan this ahead of time and choose persons who would be comfortable

(Continued on Page 15)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 3, 4

FOR WHAT IS YOUR LIFE? . . . A VAPOUR!

Time's a handbreadth; 'tis a tale,
'Tis a vessel under sail;
'Tis an eagle in its way
Darting down upon its prey;
'Tis an arrow in its flight,
Mocking the pursuing sight;
'Tis a short-lived fading flower;
'Tis a rainbow on a shower;
'Tis a momentary ray,
Smiling in a winter's day;
'Tis a torrent's rapid stream;
'Tis a shadow; 'tis a dream;
'Tis the closing watch of night,
Dying at the rising light;
'Tis a bubble; 'tis a sigh—
Be prepared, O man, to die.

One of the illusions of life is that the present hour is not the critical, decisive hour. Write it on your heart that every day is the best day of the year. He only is rich who owns the day, and no one owns the day who allows it to be invaded with worry, fret, and anxiety. Finish every day, and be done with it. You have done what you could.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 5, 6

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TODAY?

We shall give so much in the years to come,
But what did we give today?
We should lift the burden and encourage some,
But what did we do today?
We shall comfort hearts and dry the tear,
We shall plant a hope in the place of fear,
We shall speak the words of love and cheer,
But what did we speak today?

We shall be so kind in the after-a-while,
But what have we been today?
We shall bring to each lonely life a smile,
But what have we brought today?
We shall give to truth a grander birth,
And to steadfast faith a deeper worth,
We shall feed the hungering souls of earth,
But whom have we fed today?

We shall reap such joys in the by-and-by,
But what have we sown today?
We shall build us mansions in the sky,
But what have we built today?
'Tis sweet in idle dreams to bask,
But here and now do we do our task?
Yes, this is the thing our souls must ask,
"What have we done today?"

Enjoy the blessings of this day, as God sends them, and the evils of it bear patiently and sweetly! This day only is ours; we are dead to yesterday, and we are not born to the morrow. He, therefore, that enjoys the present, if it be good, enjoys as much as is possible, and if only that day's trouble leans upon him, it is singular and finite.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 1, 2

JUST FOR TODAY

Lord, for tomorrow and its needs,
I do not pray;
Keep me, my God, from stain of sin,
Just for today!

Now, set a seal upon my lips,
For this I pray;
Keep me from wrong, or idle words,
Just for today!

Let me be slow to do my will,
Prompt to obey;
And keep me, guide me, use me, Lord,
Just for today!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 3, 4

TWO AWFUL ETERNITIES

There are two days in every week about which we should not worry—two days which should be kept free from fear and apprehension.

One of these days is yesterday, with its mistakes and cares, its aches and pains, its faults and blunders. Yesterday has passed forever beyond our control. All the money in the world cannot bring back yesterday. We cannot undo a single act we performed, we cannot erase a single word we said.

The other day we should not worry about is tomorrow, with its possible adversities, its burdens, its large promise and performance. Tomorrow also is beyond our immediate control.

Tomorrow's sun will rise either in splendor or behind a mask of clouds—but it will rise. Until it does, we have no stake in tomorrow, for it is yet unborn.

That leaves only one day—today. Any man can fight the battles of just one day.

It is only when you and I add the burdens of those two awful eternities—yesterday and tomorrow—that we are liable to break down.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

Scripture Reading—Titus

IT WORKS!

A businessman always gave a tenth of his income to the Lord's work. One day he was informed that within a year he would have to vacate the property which he was renting for his manufacturing business. For six months he sought another building to rent but with no success. Naturally, his business could not be carried on without a suitable building. In the meanwhile he was informed that a bank would put up a building for him if he could obtain a suitable site. He found an ideal property with a railroad siding. However, there was one drawback: the price. They wanted $30,000 for the site. He had $30,000, but he felt that $10,000 of it was money he owed the Lord, and which he had allowed to accumulate for a very definite service. He tried to get the site for $20,000, but without success. One day he was strongly tempted to pay the $30,000. He prayed earnestly, however, about the matter. After prayer, he picked up his Bible. He read, "Bring ye all the tithes . . . I will . . . open the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing." "That settles it! The Lord shall have His $10,000 no matter what happens!" He went to the phone and called a Christian friend, saying, "That $10,000 is waiting for you whenever you need it!" He had hardly cradled the receiver when the phone rang. The real estate man was on the line. He said, "I have good news for you. You may have the piece of ground for $20,000." The Lord got His $10,000, and he got his lot and his factory, and his business prospered!

Strength for today is all that we need,
For there never will be a tomorrow;
For tomorrow will prove but another today,
With its measures of joy and sorrow.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

Scripture Reading—Philemon

WITHHOLDING HIS DUE

Suppose a master gardener should give you a beautiful garden and say, "I will provide the seed, the soil, the sunlight, the air, and all the other things necessary to make it beautiful. All I ask in return is one blossom of each ten, that they may be mine, and that with them I may cheer others who have not. The other nine you may do with as you will." Then, suppose when the garden grew and became beautiful, you selfishly kept all the blossoms for yourself and those whom you loved, giving only a leaf or a bud to the master whenever it happened to please you to do so. What would the master of the garden think of you? Yet God is the Master Gardener!

We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths; in feelings, not in figures on a dial. We should count time by heartbeats. He most lives who thinks most, feels noblest, acts the best.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 1, 2

SHORTCHANGING GOD

One of God's children, who was a tither, passed through a difficult time financially. He could hardly make ends meet. It was toward the close of the year. "I'll not pay my tithe to the Lord in the new year," he shortsightedly resolved. During the new year he carried out that ill-advised decision to his own spiritual injury and financial loss. He became ill and had to be hospitalized. It turned out that his hospital and doctor's bill totaled just forty cents more than his tithe would have been.

Would he have had this medical bill if he had dealt squarely with God in the matter of tithing? Only God knows the answer.

This we do know: it never pays, either spiritually or financially, to shortchange God.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

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For November 27

GOD'S WITNESSING PEOPLE

Lesson Text: Matthew 5:13-16; 28:18-20; 2 Corinthians 5: 18-21; 2 Timothy 4:1, 2
Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:20

I. INTRODUCTION

"God's Called-out People"—that was the theme of last week's study, and that is what we are. God has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9). As His people we are set apart from the rest of the world.

"Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord" (2 Corinthians 6:17). However, we are not separated from active people by space, but by character; not by where we are, but by what we are. As many have noted, we are in the world but not of the world. This is according to the wish of Jesus (John 17:15, 16).

Jesus is our example. The background of this lesson lies in His own life on earth. To be His witnesses we must know Him well. Never was anyone more dedicated, more set apart from sinners, more holy (Hebrews 7:26). Yet He was closely and constantly in touch with sinners. Jesus came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10). He sought them where they were. He mingled with publicans and sinners who were abandoned and despised; He mingled with the Pharisees who abandoned and despised them. At the proper time He bore their sins in His own body on the Cross (1 Peter 2:24), but never did any of their sins infect His own way of living.

We are the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27). He has no hands but our hands to minister to the sick and needy now. He has no feet but our feet to seek the lost. He has no lips but our lips to speak the everlasting gospel. If we are not God's witnessing people, then who in the world will speak for the Father in Heaven?

A study of witnessing is not concluded in the meeting place, of course. The conclusion comes on Monday and the other weekdays. It comes in the places where Christians work or play or go to school. How urgent is your witnessing?

Three Ways to Witness

1. *Personally.* Think of the people you will talk to this week. Better still, make a list of them. How many of them present opportunities to testify about Jesus? How many opportunities will you use?

2. *Congregationally.* Probably your church has a program in which willing workers go out in the community as witnesses for Jesus. Are you taking part in it?

3. *Internationally.* No doubt your church also gives support to missionaries who are Christ's witnesses in far-off places. Do you have little time for personal witnessing because you spend so much time at work? At work you turn your time into money, and that money can be turned into effective witnessing by a faithful missionary.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

II. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A. "Let God be thanked that there is on earth an institution that has a high opinion of man, declaring that he is a son of God, who had divine possibilities; an institution that transcends race, nation and class; an institution which is loyally undertaking to embody the spirit of Christ, and in His name to relieve human suffering, promote human welfare and carry on a ministry of reconciliation among men." —Ernest F. Tittle

B. "The church exists by mission, as fire exists by burning.—Emil Brunner

C. A cartoon in the newspaper some years ago pictures Uncle Sam, standing on the Ship of State, saying to the representatives of the Christian faith: "It is your business to keep off the Ship of State the barnacles of greed, selfishness, and dishonesty."

D. A recent survey taken among Christians revealed a significant reluctance to talk about their faith with those outside the church. One person said, "I don't feel that I could explain my faith to others." Another says, "I would be shy about talking to others about my faith." Someone else commented, "I couldn't communicate very well what the gospel means to me. I'd feel I was imposing my beliefs on others. Talking about religion and faith is really the pastor's job."

Another survey showed that two-thirds to seven-eighths of the recent adult new members in the most rapidly growing churches first attended at the invitation of a friend or relative.

—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving . . . (Psalm 100:4).

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

a question and answer session regarding College Hall and the four-year program.

"Although the work on College Hall will not be completed by December 5, we want to provide our ministers with an advanced preview of this facility and its potential for service to Original Free Will Baptists," President W. Burkette Raper declared.

The formal opening of College Hall is scheduled for Saturday, January 7, at which Governor James B. Hunt Jr., will be the principal speaker. This event will be open to the public.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE—A CONTINUING INSPIRATION

Mount Olive College is enjoying record financial support as it moves into its four-year academic program.

Dr. Burkette Raper, president of the college, reports gifts totalled $866,875 for the year ending June 30. That was an all-time high.

The Free Will Baptists sponsor the highly respected liberal arts college and members of that faith set the pace with donations. They contributed $477,825—more than half the total donations—during the year.

Meanwhile, the college was receiving $121,000 in income on $1.1 million in endowments.

Mount Olive College is a remarkable institution—an inspiring example of surmounting the seemingly insurmountable through faith and determination.

When the decision was made to create the institution in Wayne County, the Free Will Baptists fund for higher education had less than $10.

The story is well known to those of us who have followed its progress. But, since we play to a passing parade, it is well worth repeating.

Under the guidance of Dr. Raper, the denomination acquired, on credit, a public school building abandoned as worn out and obsolete. The decision was to emphasize first the quality of the academic program and then focus on physical facilities.

In the shortest time possible the college had earned full accreditation. It attained recognition and respect given even more lustre by its humble beginnings.

The old building continues in use. But a few blocks away is a modern campus and buildings that are memorials to the insight and foresight of those who built the institution.

Mount Olive College, however, is not simply a story of what has happened. It is a heartwarming story still unfolding.

It is a unique institution for people who have a desire and appreciation of a very special academic environment. It has an atmosphere not available in any of our state-supported colleges and in few, if any, of our larger church-related institutions.

Those who contributed to the record level of support last year recognized what the school is and will be and took advantage of the opportunity to be a part of it.

—Reprint from *Goldsboro News-Argus*, Editorial, Friday, October 21, 1983.

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

(Continued from Page 11)

doing it. After the role-playing, discuss anything you learned from it. The aim is to help your class members to learn from a demonstration about the best ways to share the good news. This role-playing reproduces the witnessing situation. You could ask the person who was playing the role of the non-Christian if he or she would have responded positively to the witnessing efforts of the other person.

Fifth, take some salt and a light bulb (candle or lamp) to class. Discuss these items. What is salt? What does it do? Then discuss some ways in which the Christian is like salt and light in the world.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from Page 4)

Central Conference Laymen To Hold Meeting

The Layman's League of the Central Conference will hold its next quarterly meeting on December 5, 1983, at Ormondsville Church at 7:30 p.m.

This meeting will be a supper meeting with the business session being held after the meal is served. Several items of business need to be discussed and your attendance is very important. It is asked that all Layman's League members come out to a good meal, good Christian fellowship and attend to the business that the Lord has set before them.

COMING EVENTS

November—Entire Month Designated by the North Carolina State Convention as Children's Home Month

November 24—Thanksgiving Day

November 24—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and all Bible bookstores closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston, and Whiteville

December—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

December 2—Home Missions Board will meet at Three Steers Restaurant, Greenville, 7 p.m.

December 16—Fall Semester Ends, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive

December 23-26—Christmas Holidays, Offices Closed, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive

December 25—Christmas Day

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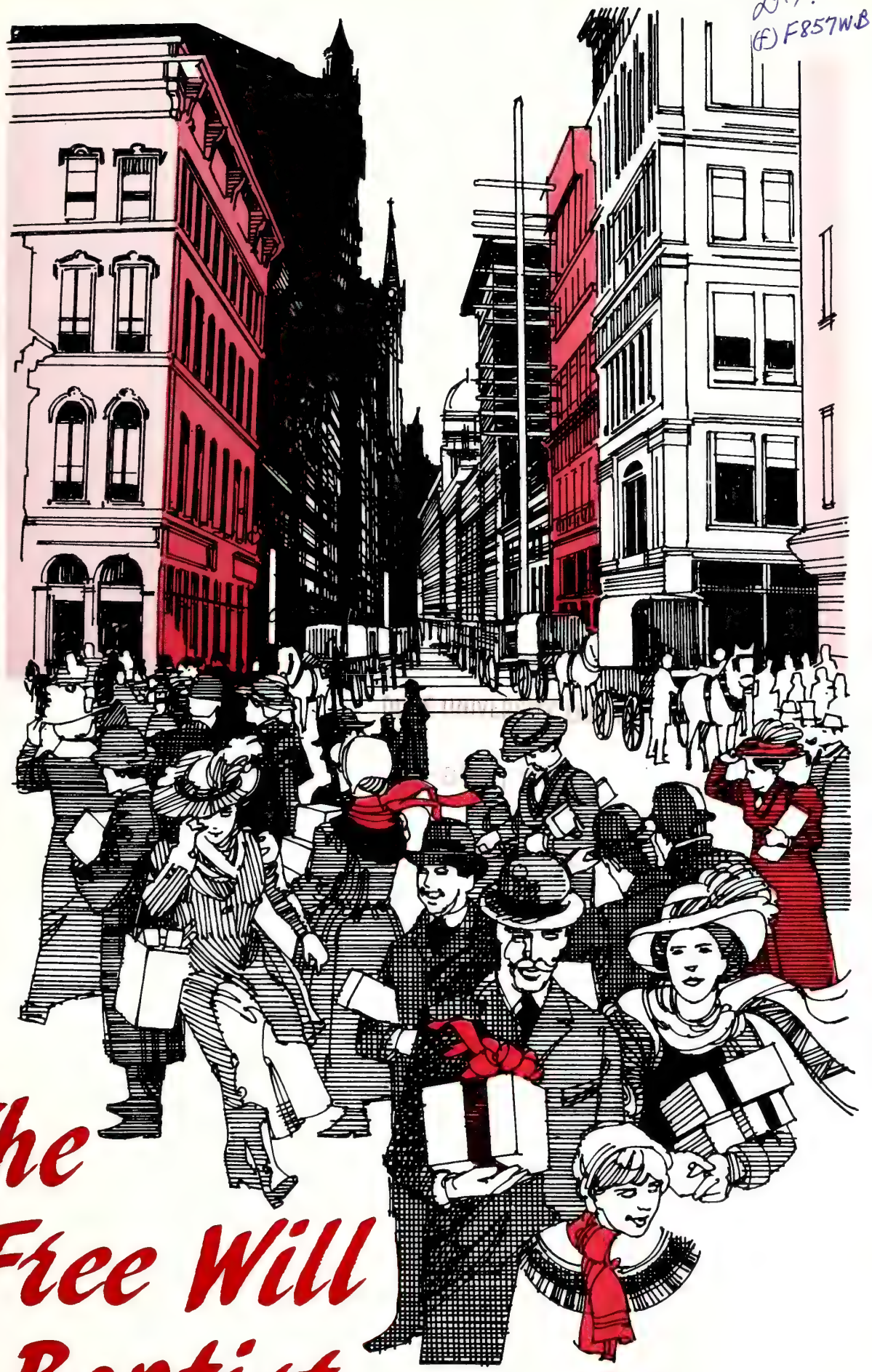

The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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December 7, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, Smithfield, and Whiteville, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

How About You?

Have you ever noticed that whenever people come together during December, someone inevitably asks, "What do you want for Christmas?" The answers given in reply vary greatly.

Many of the people on my Christmas list have complicated my shopping this year since nearly all of them have more—much more—than they need. Few can think of anything they would really like to receive. Then again, someone will always say, "I just want to have a happy, healthy holiday." (Now how am I supposed to grant such a wish?) But then again, that is my reply. I remember last Christmas **too** well. Before 8:30 that morning I was standing in an emergency room cubicle watching a surgeon insert a tube into my father's chest—his lung had collapsed.

I look around at all that I have, much of which is not very new—but it doesn't need to be. There is food on our table—in the cabinets—in the refrigerator—in the freezer. Some of the clothes I wear may have been purchased 5-15 years ago (no, that is not a typographical error), but I can't think of anything I really need. I am comfortable; and I am at peace with myself—my attention does not need to be self-centered. It should be directed elsewhere.

Needless to say, many things occur in our everyday lives, things over which we have no control. But you know, there are a lot of things we can do something about; there are a lot of ways we can bring happiness.

Many times we fail to give of ourselves. (Why we all know it is easier to write a check, to direct responsibility elsewhere, to say, "I can't!") As Christians though, we should share. After all, Christ told us to. Maybe it's time we stop being **flashlights** and become **lighthouses!** We cannot help all of the hungry people in the world—but we can feed a few of them; and we don't have to look half way around the world to find them. We may not be able to do much about wars and conflicts, but we can dress wounds, whether they be physical, emotional, or spiritual; we can dry tears, and show we care.

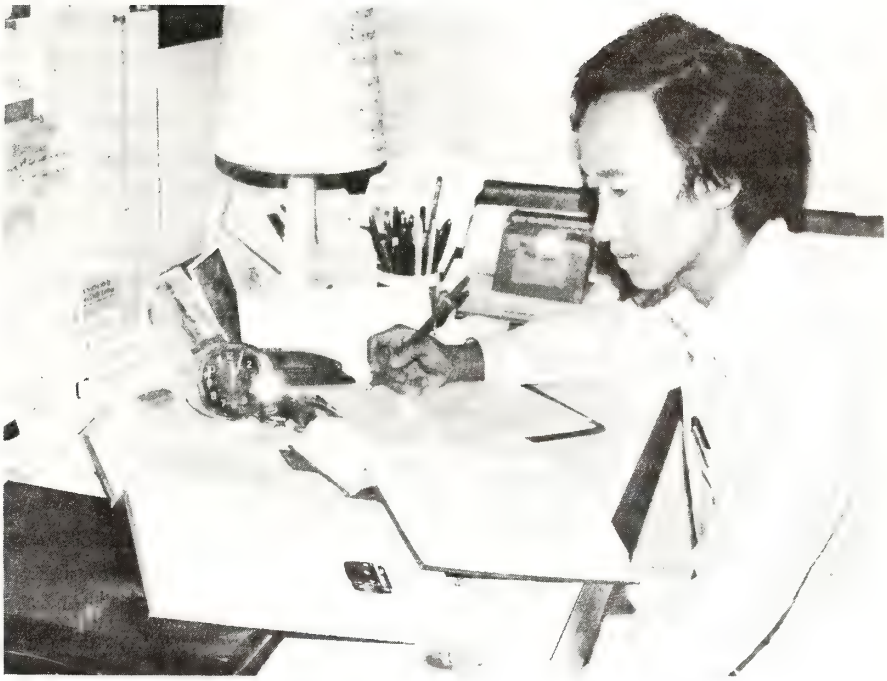
With this in mind, I have decided what I am going to do this Christmas. I am going to give of myself and try to:

Mend broken spirits
Seek out an old, forgotten acquaintance
Share something of value
Encourage young people
Keep a promise
Find "the time"
Listen
Apologize for the many times I was wrong
Be gentle
Laugh a little
Laugh a little more.

How about it? What is your Christmas going to be like? (Slow down and think about it; otherwise, you are going to take the holiness out of the season.)

LAOS TO MT. OLIVE COLLEGE: JOURNEY TO FREEDOM

by Patti O'Donoghue



Doua Moua is a student at Mount Olive College. How he came to be a religion major on a North Carolina campus, far from his native land, is a story of sorrow and endurance.

Doua came from a family of 11, with seven brothers and one sister. The family farmed in the village of Phou Bia near Xieng Khoung Mountain, the highest place in Laos. They raised some pigs and chickens. They grew rice, vegetables and corn.

At age fourteen Doua was a soldier in the Laotian Army. He was fighting against the communist takeover of his country. His people supported the United States effort in Southeast Asia. After the U.S. withdrew its armed forces the communists marked the H'mong tribe for extinction. The Moua family was of the H'mong tribe.

From a story written for Lucy Mooring, Doua's English teacher at Mount Olive—

". . . During the spring of 1975, the Vietnam war was ending. On the same time two small countries of Indo-China peninsula were about finishing their freedom, too. They are Laos and Cambodia. The communists took over Laos. On the time many thousands people flew and escaped from communist to search for freedom. And there is Thailand, and only one freedom country in Southeast Asia left over.

"Since the time Laos was falling I was seventeen years old. It was so sad for everybody. My tears were rolling down on my cheeks as I was already leaving my homeland. A bitter feeling was approaching in my heart and I said, 'Goodbye Laos, my beautiful land. I must go far away to search for freedom and survive.' I don't want to leave, but I could stay no longer here.

". . . I spend days and nights walked in the jungle and trying to cross the border. Many thousands peoples including myself tried to reach the border, but some never made it. They were walking with carrying their children, new born babies and some livestocks. And then some of them were died of starvation and some were killed and caught by communists."

Doua safely crossed the border and arrived at a former CIA training camp. He and his family had been separated during the trek. After they arrived at the camp, Doua was able to find his family. Everyone had made it.

(Turn the Page)

Doua tells of life in a refugee camp. "In this camp there were 24,000 people, maybe more. We don't have a house. They give us a big piece of material to put on the ground to sleep on. There were three bathrooms for everyone. There was not enough water for washing, so we take one shower every two weeks. It was a dirty place."

The camp had two cafeterias for the refugees to use. Food came from the United States. The people always had to wait in line. Doua wrote, "Every time I was in line for meal my tears was trickled down my sorrow face. I ask, why these things happened? There were no answer."

Doua endured refugee camps for 15 months.

Fortunately, representatives from the American Embassy in Thailand went to Doua's camp. Since Doua had served in the army and he had worked for the Americans, his family was accepted for entry into the United States. They had to wait another month, this time in Bangkok. They left Bangkok and arrived in San Diego, California, November 1, 1976.

Doua recorded his feelings on leaving his homeland. "Late in 1976 I was arrived here in the United States of America, the greatest nation and freedom. For now I am looking back to my passing life, there is nothing left. There is the long suffering memory and sadness story left over."

The family lived in San Diego for five months. Doua recalls, "In San Diego they don't have a sponsor for us, but a man named Michael Hanson took us to his farm. Michael had a big house. Fifteen of us families lived with him. For work I fixed shoes. A bus took us to town every day.

"We don't know it, but my uncle, Moua Chu Mouanoutoua worked for Social Services in Santa Ana, California. He came to San Diego to find us." Doua, his brother and family moved to Santa Ana. In Santa Ana, Doua attended high school. They joined the Lao Evangelical Church, where other Laotian Christians worshiped.

Doua's dream in life was to become a minister to his people. There are five Laotian Churches in California, 55,000 H'mongs and only three pastors. Eighteen percent of them are Christians. Doua needed more education.

The Rev. Bob Harber, a Free Will Baptist minister to the Laotians, recommended that the Free Will Baptist Church give a scholarship to Doua. (Mr. Harber works with the H'mongs under the auspices of the Free Will Baptist State Convention Home Missions and General Baptist Mission programs.) Today Doua attends Mount Olive College on a full scholarship. He has set the goal of graduating with a degree in religion.

Doua's advisor at Mount Olive College is Calvin Mercer, a religion professor. "Doua comes to the school with extraordinary handicaps," Mercer explains. "He was suddenly jerked out of his culture and transplanted to a foreign country. He was stripped of his history and his language. He had a terrible handicap with the English language. These tremendous kinds of experiences would create problems for anyone."

From these problems came the opportunity for others to help. Mercer contacted Doua's instructors so they would understand the situation. A work study student, Judith Taylor, tutors Doua for three hours each week in mathematics and English. The college librarian, Gary Barefoot, supplied Doua with books and tapes, which aid in the study of English as a second language. This fall Doua has a B average in both English and math.

Doua set up an ambitious study schedule for himself, and he sticks to it. The final notation on his schedule reads, "After 12:30 midnight, go to bed."

"Doua exhibits a firm willingness to work hard to achieve his goals," adds Mercer. "Given the unusual pain and difficulty he has experienced in life, his progress and eagerness to continue are most admirable.

"As far as I'm concerned, Doua is one of the most dedicated, hard working and sincere people I've ever met. He is a blessing to his people," Mercer said.

Doua recorded his feelings about being away from his family in California. "In the first couple days when I was here I was a little bit homesick. I missed my family. After I became here I felt better than at home, because in North Carolina State almost the same in my own country (Laos). And I think my stay at Mount Olive College campus will be real enjoyable."

Doua is thankful for all the friends he has in the United States. He knows that so many people helped him to be where he is today. The congregation of the Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Wayne County helps with spending money and pay for his books. He has been a guest in the home of his friend, Charles "Brother" Crisp, the director of the Free Will Baptist Home Mission Board.

Doua appreciates the freedom he has to go to school and become a minister. As he says, "I want to help my people like the people of North Carolina have helped me."

(Two other Laotian students have attended Mount Olive College. In 1983 True Moua and Kao Blong graduated from Mount Olive. True is now at Cal State University in Long Beach and Kao attends Fresno State.)

(Used by permission from the *Goldsboro News-Argus*, November 20, 1983).

The Story of

THE OTHER WISEMAN

Part One
by Henry van Dyke

(*The Story of the Other Wiseman* was first copyrighted in 1895. This condensation is being used by permission. It is hoped that you will enjoy reading this great work. Make it a part of your holiday traditions.)

IN the days when Augustus Caesar was master of many kings and Herod reigned in Jerusalem, there lived in the city of Ecbatana, among the mountains of Persia, a certain man named Artaban, the Median.

Around the dwelling of Artaban spread a fair garden, a tangle of flowers and fruit trees. In the soft and odorous darkness of the late September night, all sounds were hushed. High above the trees a dim glow of light shone through the curtained arches of the upper chamber, where the master of the house was holding council with his friends.

"Welcome!" he said in his low, pleasant voice, as one after another entered the room. "You are all welcome, and this house grows bright with the joy of your presence."

Nine men, differing widely in age but alike in the richness of their many-colored silk dress and the winged circles of gold resting upon their breasts, took their places around a small black altar at the end of the room, where a tiny flame was burning. Artaban invited them to be seated.

"You have come tonight," he said, looking around the circle, "at my call, as the faithful scholars of Zoroaster, to renew your worship and rekindle your faith in the God of Purity, even as this fire has been rekindled on the altar. We worship not the fire, but Him of whom it is the chosen symbol, because it is the purest of all created things. It speaks to us of one who is Light and Truth.

"Hear me, then, my friends," said Artaban, very quietly, "while I tell you of the new light and truth that have come to me through the most ancient of all signs. The highest of all learning is the knowledge of the stars. To trace their courses is to untangle the threads of mystery of life from the beginning to the end. If we could follow them perfectly, nothing would be hidden from us. But is not our knowledge of them still incomplete?"

There was a murmur of assent among the listeners.

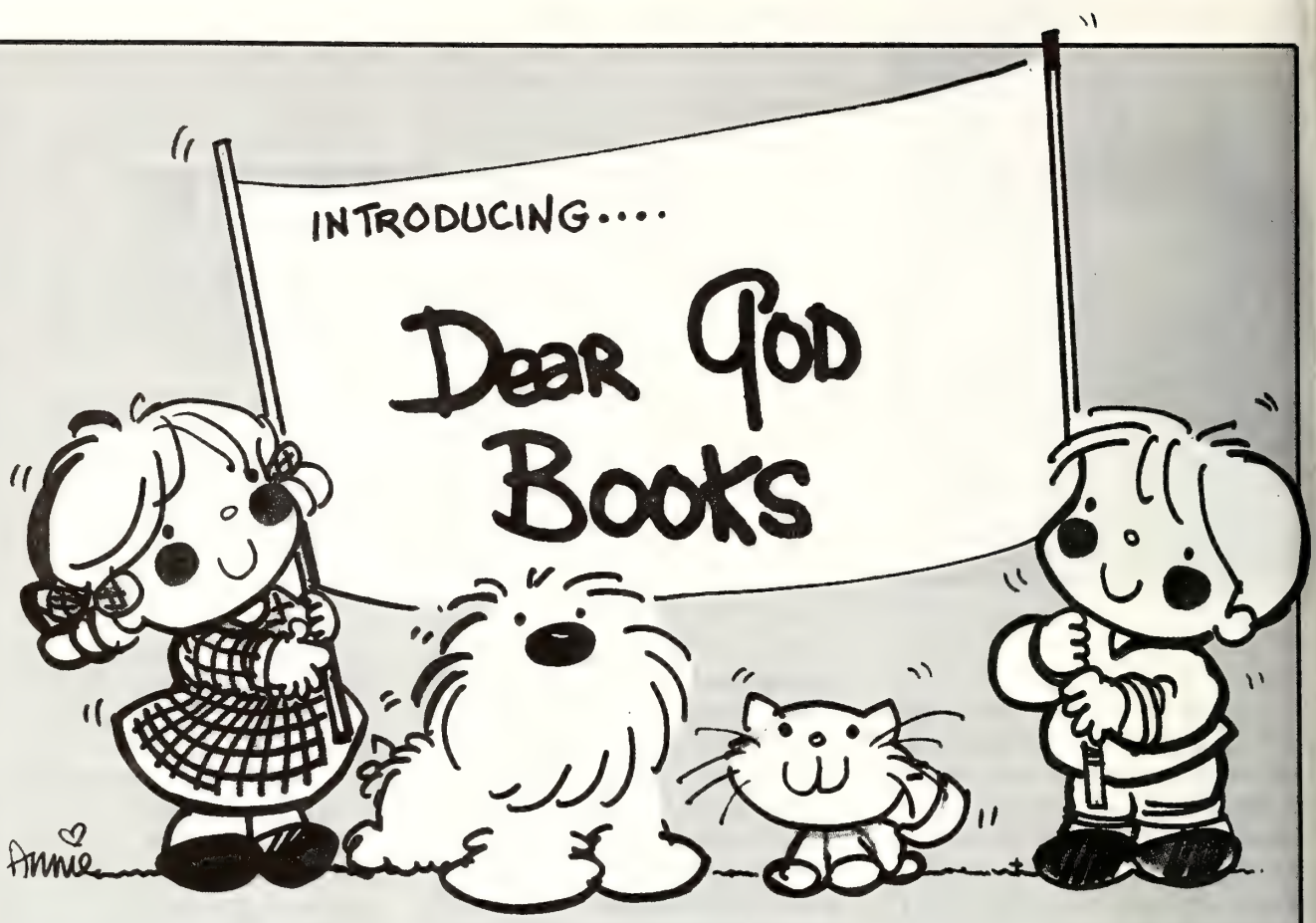
"The stars," said Tigranes, "are the thoughts of the Eternal. They are numberless. But the thoughts of man can be counted, like the years of his life. The wisdom of the Magi is the greatest of all wisdoms on earth because it knows its own ignorance. And that is the secret of power. We keep men always looking and waiting for a new sunrise. But we ourselves know that the darkness is equal to the light and that the conflict between them will never be ended."

"That does not satisfy me," answered Artaban, "for, if the waiting must be endless, if there could be no fulfillment of it, then it would not be wisdom to look and wait. But the new sunrise will certainly dawn in the appointed time. Do not our own books tell us that this will come to pass and that men will see the brightness of a great light?"

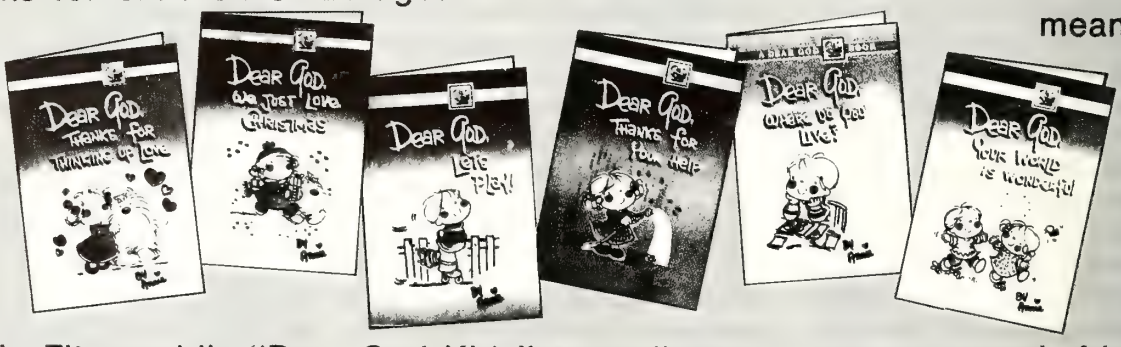
"That is true," said the voice of Abgarus. "Every faithful disciple of Zoroaster knows the prophecy of the Avesta and carries the word in his heart. 'In that day Sosiosh the Victorious shall arise out of the number of the prophets in the east country. Around him shall shine a mighty brightness, and he shall make life everlasting, incorruptible, and immortal, and the dead shall rise again.' "

"This is a dark saying," said Tigranes, "and it may be that we shall never understand it. It is better to consider the things that are near at hand and to increase the influence of the Magi in their own country, rather than to look for one who may be a stranger and to whom we must resign our power."

(Continued Next Week)



Introducing Dear God Books—an exciting new series of Christian books for children of all ages!



Annie Fitzgerald's "Dear God Kids" give children models for expressing their feelings in honest prayer and provide teachable moments for you and your child to learn about God in a delightfully personal way.

Young and old will find the "Dear God Kids" irresistible in their natural charm, gentle humor, and innocent curiosity. Each delightul full-color illustration is accompanied by an insightful question or phrase and a rhymed verse that further draws out the meaning.

A "note to parents and friends of children" is included at the end of each book.

THE KEYS TO UNLOCK EVERY CHILD'S MIND & HEART

Available at the Free Will Baptist Press and its bookstores in New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston and Whiteville.

$1.50 each; or all six for $8.00

For the Young at Heart

Many people use a special calendar to mark off the days from December 1 to Christmas. This is a special time of year called Advent, which means to look forward to some important event or thing. Christians are looking forward to celebrating the birth of Christ.

The calendar below has twenty-four different names of Jesus and also shows the place in the Bible where that name is given.

Carefully cut this page out of this issue. Then glue the calendar to a sheet of red or green construction paper. Punch two holes near the top edge and insert string or yarn to hang it. (Ask your parents for help if you need it.)

Each day read the passage and color in the square. Use bright colors.

1 BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR Numbers 24:17	2 THE WAY TO GOD John 14:5-7	3 GOD'S MESSENGER John 8:42	4 BREAD OF LIFE John 6:32-58	5 FRIEND OF SINNERS Luke 5:27-32
6 GREAT DOCTOR John 5:1-9; Matthew 15:30	7 SON OF MAN Luke 22:69-70	8 John 7:37 LIVING WATER	9 FRIEND OF CHILDREN Mark 10:13-16	10 THE DOOR John 10:9-11
11 THE TRUTH John 14:5-15	12 TRUE VINE John 15:1-9	13 SON OF DAVID Matthew 20:29-34	14 THE REDEEMER Titus 2:11-14	15 TEACHER John 3:1-11
16 STONE Luke 20:17; I Corinthians 10:4	17 THE LAMB OF GOD John 1:29	18 THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE John 11:21-27	19 ANOINTED ONE Luke 16:22	20 THE LIGHT John 8:12-18
21 John 10:1-16 GOOD SHEPHERD	22 PROPHET John 6:4; Deuteronomy 18:15	23 THE KING John 7:12-15; Matthew 2:2	24 SON OF GOD Luke 3:21, 22	25 CHRIST IS BORN TODAY

A DOUBLES TENNIS TOURNAMENT SPONSORED

A Doubles Tennis Tournament was sponsored by one of the Young Adult Sunday School Classes of Christian Chapel Church. Participating in this event were members of the class and anyone in the church and community who wanted to take part. There were eleven couples that met at the Pink Hill Tennis Courts on October 30, 1983, to compete for the title and to enjoy a cookout. Prizes were donated by some Pink Hill businesses and two Bibles to be engraved were donated by the Sunday school class. The winning couple was Valerie Tew and Robby Smith of Albertson, North Carolina.

It was a great day of fellowship for everyone involved. Those participating in the event were Valerie Tew and Robby Smith, Dianne and Lynn Smith, Peachy and Nelson Smith, Marla Hamm and Todd Ard, Connie and Lynn Tyndall, Billie and Joe Ard, Martha and Benny Martin, Donna Howard and Johnny Kennedy, Gwen and Jerle Turner, Bobbie and Earl Bielby, and Michelle Gray and Maria Lee.

Old-Fashioned Day At Haymount Church

On Sunday, November 20, 1983, Haymount Church observed a wonderful Old-Fashioned Day and dinner. The Sunday school opened with a play entitled, "What We Are Thankful For," teaching everyone that they should be thankful for what God had done as a nation and for individuals. Everyone dressed in old-fashioned clothes and for a brief moment remembered those who had died for religious freedom.

During the morning worship, the Rev. Dean Kennedy, pastor of the church, brought a sermon on Thanksgiving for the Lord's salvation from Psalm 118.

After services the ladies prepared the tables for everyone to enjoy the delicious food and fellowship in remembrance of the table Christ will prepare for all Christians one day.

Current Happenings at Pleasant Hill Church

A lot has been going on lately at Pleasant Hill Church, Route 2, Pikeville.

First of all the Ladies Auxiliary sponsored a study course on October 19, on "Stewardship" taught by the superintendent, Mr. Joe Rollins. The course was very inspiring and thought provoking.

On October 29, the youth of the church had a Halloween party that was lots of fun, and sparked by imagination.

On Sunday, November 6, the youth were involved in a puppet presentation. Shown in the picture are "Shaggy" (Neil Tillman, the puppeteer), and "Herman Croaker" (Lori Ann Berry, puppeteer).

Last, but certainly not least, came the revival, November 7-11, with the Rev. Robert May of Ahoskie as the evangelist. Each night was special beginning with ladies' night and continuing through men's night, youth night, senior citizens' night, and family night.

CURRENT HAPPENINGS AT FOLKSTONE CHURCH

If folks around Folkstone Church appear any heavier lately, it is due to all the recent fellowship dinners.

The first occasion was Senior Citizens Day. The honored guests were given corsages and escorted to their reserved seats. After a very special service of singing and God's message for the day, the Senior Citizens were served dinner. Many friends and families helped these fifty-two wonderful people celebrate.

It seemed as though before the kitchen was cleaned up, it was time to spread the food out again. This time the event was homecoming. The day turned out to be a blessing.

During the next week there was a spiritual feeding by the evangelist, the Rev. Lloyd Hargis. The spiritual desserts were to see decisions being made for Christ that week of revival services.

By the end of that week, it was time to cook again. This time it was to honor the pastor, the Rev. Ronnie Parker, on his birthday

PLEASE NOTE

The State Sunday School Convention is taking applications for the position of Executive Secretary through December 31, 1983. (This position is part-time.) Interested persons should send their resumes to the Rev. Chris Singleton at the following address: Box 162, Beulaville, NC 28518.

TOP 15 GOSPEL MUSIC ALBUMS

1. *Age to Age* by Amy Grant
2. *More than Wonderful* by Sandi Patti
3. *More Power to Ya* by Petra
4. *Live Experience* by Leon Patillo
5. *Walls of Glass* by Russ Taff
6. *I Only Want to See You There* by Keith Green
7. *Legacy* by Benny Hester
8. *Never Say Die* by Petra
9. *Songs for the Shepherd* by Keith Green
10. *Michael W. Smith Project* by Michael W. Smith
11. *Equator* by Randy Stonehill
12. *Whiteheart* by Whiteheart
13. *Stand by the Power* by The Imperials
14. *Songs for Worship Volume I* by John Michael Talbot
15. *Count the Cost* by David Meece

Youth Sunday at Pleasant Hill Church

November 27, was Youth Sunday at Pleasant Hill Church, near Pikeville. The youth were in charge of all the offices during Sunday school and church. The sermon was delivered by 15-year-old Marty Wiggins, who did an outstanding job, as did all the youth that participated.

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHORAL SOCIETY

The Free Will Baptist Choral Society is planning a special family get together in the College Auditorium on Sunday, December 11, 4 p.m. Each choir represented is asked to plan two or three choir specials to present to the group. The selections do not have to be Christmas pieces.

The goal of the December meeting is to share the varying choral styles and concepts of worship music of each group. It is hoped that choral members will inform their pastors about the importance and the necessity of meaningful worship music.

There will be a rehearsal on Thursday, December 8, 7:30 p.m., at the First Free Will Baptist Church in La Grange. This will be the final run-through for the Choral Society music to be performed on the 11th.

MINISTER AVAILABLE

The Rev. John S. Boykin announces that he will be available February 1, 1984, for any church seeking a part-time or full-time pastor. He may be contacted by writing him at Route 2, Box 175-A, Kenly, North Carolina 27542 or calling him at 284-2581.

Remember . . .
It's
HIS
Birthday!

To: Original Free Will Baptists

From: The Board of Directors

Subject: Christmas for Home Missionaries

Can you think of a better time to share your love and appreciation for your Home Missionaries than during this Christmas season?

Since the missions are small, it is sometimes difficult for them to provide for their missionary family; therefore, we, the board of directors, encourage you to join with us in helping our missionary families have a most joyous Christmas.

The Christmas season gives us an opportunity to give as an individual, Sunday school, Sunday school class, Layman's League, Auxiliary, Youth group or the church as a whole.

By giving, you are reinforcing your Christian love and are becoming better acquainted with your missionary families.

Following is a list of items that our Home Missionary families can use, along with a list of their addresses.

Please send your gift directly to the family or families you select. You might would like to deliver them personally.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Ray Wells

Ray Wells, Chairman
Home Missions Board

ITEMS FOR GIVING TO HOME MISSIONARY FAMILIES

1. Love Offering
2. Clothing: (Gift certificates from leading department stores: Belks, Penny's, etc.)
3. Linens: Sheets, pillowcases, towels, washclothes, dish towels, dish cloths, blankets.
4. Pounding: All types of canned foods (fruits and vegetables), sugar, flour, corn meal, meats, salt, pepper, cooking oil, rice, fruits and vegetables, etc.
5. Kitchen items: trash bags, washing powder, bleach, scouring pads, furniture polish, dish washing detergent, dishwasher detergent, cleansers, Saran wrap, aluminum foil, Zip-lock bags, paper towels, items for use in freezing foods.
6. Bathroom items: soap, toothpaste, mouth wash, shaving cream, toilet tissue, hair spray, Kleenex, aspirin, disinfectants, Texize pine power, Lysol spray, etc.
7. Books: gift certificates to the Free Will Baptist Press and related bookstores.
8. Subscriptions to: *The Free Will Baptist, Christian Herald, Moody Monthly, Guideposts, Key Leadership.*

Any of the above items mentioned may be selected for your giving. PLEASE send your gift directly to the family or families you select. (See list below:)

Harry and Jeanne Brown
1901 Cannon Drive
Durham, North Carolina 27705
Children: Philip (16), Wendy (12)

W. S. and Dot Burns
Country Club Drive, Lot 129
Whispering Pines Village
Fayetteville, North Carolina 28301
Children (2 Sons in College)

David and Sylvia Hansley
5611 Woodridge Road
Wilmington, North Carolina 28403
Children (Cynthia-college)
(Phil-college)

Bob Harber
3597 Harber Boulevard
Costa Mesa, California 92626

Jimmy and Theresa Sowers
Route 6, Box 47-B
Kinston, North Carolina 28501
Children: boy (3) girl (6)

Floyd and Flossie Mae Smith
Route 2, Box 245-2
Selma, North Carolina 27576

Ronnie and Sue Hall
422 Barbour Street
Clayton, North Carolina 27520
Children: Son-teenager

If you have any questions, please contact the Home Missions department; phone 746-4963.

COMING EVENTS

December—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

December 16—Fall Semester Ends, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive

December 23-26—Christmas Holidays, Offices Closed, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive

December 25—Christmas Day

December 26—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and all Bible bookstores closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, Kinston, and Whiteville

Now is a good time to renew your subscription to *The Free Will Baptist.*

Church Finance Association

CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

The CFA is a non-profit membership corporation chartered and operated under the laws of the state of North Carolina. Memberships can be purchased only by denominational institutions and organizations, churches, church auxiliaries and organizations, and individual Free Will Baptists. Each membership costs twenty-five dollars ($25) and earns no interest or dividends because of the non-profit status of the Corporation. The membership can be withdrawn by the member giving a ninety (90) day notice and the board of directors approving the withdrawal. Membership money helps the Association to help our churches with below market rate mortgage loans. **YOU** should purchase one or more memberships now.

Following is a list of Free Will Baptist organizations that hold one or more memberships in the Association—(individual members are not included):

NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Albemarle League Union
Albemarle Sunday School Convention
Albemarle Union Meeting
Arapahoe Sunday School
Arapahoe Church
Aspen Grove Church
Aspen Grove Woman's Auxiliary
Ayden Auxiliary
Ayden Sunday School
Ayden Church
Barnes Hill Church
Barnes Hill Sunday School
Bethel Auxiliary—Johnston County
Bethel Sunday School—Johnston County
Bethel Church—Johnston County
Bethel Church—Pamlico County
Bethlehem Church
Beulaville Church
Bridgeton Church
Black Jack Church
Bethany Church
Beaufort Mission
Cypress Creek Church
Camp Vandemere, Inc.
Cabin Church
Cape Fear Conference Meeting
Cape Fear Union Meeting
Carteret County Union
Central Conference
Christian Chapel Church
Community Chapel Church
Core Creek Church
Corinth Church
Crab Point Church
Calvary Church
Cragment Assembly, Inc.
Catalpa Church
Croatan Church
Cathedral Church
Christ Church
Daly's Chapel Church
Daniels Chapel Church
Dawson's Grove Auxiliary
Deep Run Church
Dilda's Grove
Eastwood (First Church, Fayetteville)
East Rockingham Church
Eastern Auxiliary Convention
Eastern Conference
Edwards Chapel Church
Elm Grove Church
Elwood Lane Church
Edgewood Church
First Church—Durham
Faith Mission of Leland
Faith Church—Morehead
Faith Mission—Durham
Fifth Eastern Union Meeting
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention
First Church—Rocky Mount
First Church—Tarboro
First Church—Wilson
First Wilson Sunday School and Leagues
First Church—Williamston
First Western Sunday School Convention
First Western Union Meeting
Flood's Chapel Sunday School
Fourth Union of Central Conference
Free Will Baptist Union Meeting—Carteret County
Free Union Auxiliary—Albemarle
Free Union—Nash County
Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
Friendship Church—Johnston County
Friendship Sunday School—Johnston
Friendship Church—Greene County
Free Will Baptist Children's Home
Flood's Chapel Church
First Church—Greenville
Fremont Church
Fellowship Church
Free Spirit Church
First Mission—Wilmington
Free Union Church—Greene County
First Church—Woodrow
First Church—Goldsboro
First Church—Kinston
First Church—Warsaw
Grimsley Church
Gum Neck Church
Gum Swamp Church
Gum Swamp Sunday School
Hugo Church
House of Prayer
Hickory Chapel Church
Hickory Grove Church
Hickory Grove Sunday School
Holly Springs Church—Western Conference
Holly Springs Sunday School—Western Conference
Hopewell Church
Hopewell Sunday School
Howell Swamp Church
Hull Road Church
Hull Road Leagues
Holly Springs Church—Carteret County
Heritage Church
Hillsberry Church
Johnston Union
Juniper Chapel Sunday School
Kenly Church
King's Cross Roads Sunday School
Lanier's Chapel Church and Sunday School
Lanier's Chapel Church
Long Ridge Church
Lee's Chapel Church
Little Creek Sunday School
Little Rock Church
Little Creek Church
Macedonia Church
Marsh Swamp Church
Marsh Swamp Sunday School
Micro Auxiliary
Micro Church
Mount Olive College
Mount Zion Sunday School—Nash County
May's Chapel
Moseley's Creek Church
Mount Zion Church—Eastern Conference
New Bethlehem Church
New Sandy Hill Church
New Sandy Hill Sunday School
North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists
North Carolina State Convention Church Extension
Oak Grove Church—Cape Fear Conference
Oak Grove Church—Pee Dee
Ormondsville Church
Owens Chapel Church
Oriental Church
Otter's Creek Church
Otway Church
Oriental Sunday School
Peace Church
Pearsall Chapel
Pleasant Grove Church—Western Conference
Pleasant Grove Sunday School—Western Conference
Pleasant Hill Church—Central
Pleasant Hill Church—Western Conference
Pleasant Plain Church
Piney Grove Church—Pitt County
People's Chapel Sunday School
Pine Level Church—Pee Dee Association
Rains Cross Roads Auxiliary

(Continued on Page 19)

CHURCH VISITS BY COLLEGE PERSONNEL
Sunday, December 11

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president, will be at Mount Tabor Church near Creswell. He will teach the 10 a.m. Sunday school classes and speak at the 11 a.m. worship service. The Rev. Frank Thigpen is pastor.

MOC STUDENTS TO ATTEND "KC 83"

"Bringing the life changing message of Jesus Christ to the colleges and universities of America is the most critical need of our nation. If we can reach the campus for Christ today, we will have readied the leaders of our nation for tomorrow." These were the challenging words of Dr. Bill Bright, founder of Campus Crusade for Christ, International.

He calls together 25,000 students from across America to participate in an evangelism conference that will help ignite a spiritual revolution among students. This revolution could alter the course of history.

"KC 83" is designed especially for college students. The students will learn how to make an eternal mark for Christ and to see God's power unleashed on every campus of America, reaching every student.

The students pictured are preparing the way for the bold adventure of "KC 83" which is scheduled for December 27, 1983, to January 1, 1984, in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Bill Bright, Dr. Billy Graham and Mrs. Josh McDowell will head the list of speakers at the conference. The students will also participate in training programs for campus evangelism.

(Churches, groups or organizations that wish to help pay expenses for the Mount Olive College students may send funds to Frank Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365. Make checks payable to Mount Olive College.)

Pictured from left to right: Trish Taylor, Dorm Director; Amelia Massengill, Four Oaks; Susan Carter, Mt. Vernon, Alabama; Katrina Cartrette, Clarendon; Frankie Whaley, Kenansville; Alicia Heath, Goldsboro; JoAnne Mitchell, Smithfield; and Sherry Mitchell, Bridgeton. Not pictured is Susan Foust, Graham.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DINNERS
Comparative Report: 1982-1983

For the past twenty-one years (1963-83) Mount Olive College has held a series of seventeen dinners for the purpose of fostering support by churches, individuals, alumni and friends. Gifts to the College through these dinners have totaled $1,800,063.

At the 1983 dinners, gifts reached an all-time high of $166,181. Attendance for the year totaled 3,808.

County/Area	1982 Gifts	1983 Gifts	Difference	1983 Chairman
Beaufort	$ 8,180	$ 8,034	$ (146)	Billy Gurkin
Carteret	7,423	8,932	1,509	Reginald Styron
Craven	11,001	10,471	(530)	Marice DeBruhl
Duplin	8,888	9,041	153	William Thigpen
Edgecombe-Halifax	6,500	6,659	159	Rufus Harrell
Greene	8,484	11,158	2,674	George Harrison
Johnston-Wake	22,206	24,855	2,649	Philip Wood Donald Coates
Jones	2,299	2,352	53	Mildred Jenkins
Lenoir	5,839	7,162	1,323	Stanley Jenkins
Nash	3,039	3,235	196	Lester Duncan
Onslow, New Hanover, Brunswick	1,913	2,427	514	O. B. Taylor
Pamlico	8,088	7,843	(245)	M. N. (Tom) Caroon
Pitt	13,637	15,813	2,176	Dorothy Dail
Sampson, Harnett, Cumberland	7,950	8,312	362	Felton Godwin
Washington, Tyrrell, Martin, Pasquotank	5,173	4,724	(449)	David Cahoon
Wayne	17,708	18,441	733	Colby Benton
Wilson	15,849	16,723	874	James B. Hunt
TOTAL	$154,176	$166,181	$ 12,005	

We thank all who worked, gave and prayed to make possible this meaningful investment in the work of Mount Olive College.

Jean F. Ackiss, *Director*
Mount Olive College Annual Dinners

YOUR CHAIR HAS BEEN ORDERED FOR COLLEGE HALL

Saturday, January 7, will be a great day for Original Free Will Baptists and Mount Olive College. On this date, our long-awaited Convention-Physical Education-Athletic Center will open. We hope 2,000 people will be present for this event!

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M. E. Cox, *Moderator*
John Furr, *Clerk*

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William D. Thigpen, *Secretary*

He became like us, so we could become like Him!

—Henri Nouwen

CHURCH VISITS BY COLLEGE PERSONNEL
Sunday, December 11

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president, will be at Mount Tabor Church near Creswell. He will teach the 10 a.m. Sunday school classes and speak at the 11 a.m. worship service. The Rev. Frank Thigpen is pastor.

MOC STUDENTS TO ATTEND "KC 83"

"Bringing the life changing message of Jesus Christ to the colleges and universities of America is the most critical need of our nation. If we can reach the campus for Christ today, we will have readied the leaders of our nation for tomorrow." These were the challenging words of Dr. Bill Bright, founder of Campus Crusade for Christ, International.

He calls together 25,000 students from across America to participate in an evangelism conference that will help ignite a spiritual revolution among students. This revolution could alter the course of history.

"KC 83" is designed especially for college students. The students will learn how to make an eternal mark for Christ and to see God's power unleashed on every campus of America, reaching every student.

The students pictured are preparing the way for the bold adventure of "KC 83" which is scheduled for December 27, 1983, to January 1, 1984, in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Bill Bright, Dr. Billy Graham and Mrs. Josh McDowell will head the list of speakers at the conference. The students will also participate in training programs for campus evangelism.

(Churches, groups or organizations that wish to help pay expenses for the Mount Olive College students may send funds to Frank Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365. Make checks payable to Mount Olive College.)

Pictured from left to right: Trish Taylor, Dorm Director; Amelia Massengill, Four Oaks; Susan Carter, Mt. Vernon, Alabama; Katrina Cartrette, Clarendon; Frankie Whaley, Kenansville; Alicia Heath, Goldsboro; JoAnne Mitchell, Smithfield; and Sherry Mitchell, Bridgeton. Not pictured is Susan Foust, Graham.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DINNERS
Comparative Report: 1982-1983

For the past twenty-one years (1963-83) Mount Olive College has held a series of seventeen dinners for the purpose of fostering support by churches, individuals, alumni and friends. Gifts to the College through these dinners have totaled $1,800,063.

At the 1983 dinners, gifts reached an all-time high of $166,181. Attendance for the year totaled 3,808.

County/Area	1982 Gifts	1983 Gifts	Difference	1983 Chairman
Beaufort	$ 8,180	$ 8,034	$ (146)	Billy Gurkin
Carteret	7,423	8,932	1,509	Reginald Styron
Craven	11,001	10,471	(530)	Marice DeBruhl
Duplin	8,888	9,041	153	William Thigpen
Edgecombe-Halifax	6,500	6,659	159	Rufus Harrell
Greene	8,484	11,158	2,674	George Harrison
Johnston-Wake	22,206	24,855	2,649	Philip Wood Donald Coates
Jones	2,299	2,352	53	Mildred Jenkins
Lenoir	5,839	7,162	1,323	Stanley Jenkins
Nash	3,039	3,235	196	Lester Duncan
Onslow, New Hanover, Brunswick	1,913	2,427	514	O. B. Taylor
Pamlico	8,088	7,843	(245)	M. N. (Tom) Caroon
Pitt	13,637	15,813	2,176	Dorothy Dail
Sampson, Harnett, Cumberland	7,950	8,312	362	Felton Godwin
Washington, Tyrrell, Martin, Pasquotank	5,173	4,724	(449)	David Cahoon
Wayne	17,708	18,441	733	Colby Benton
Wilson	15,849	16,723	874	James B. Hunt
TOTAL	$154,176	$166,181	$ 12,005	

We thank all who worked, gave and prayed to make possible this meaningful investment in the work of Mount Olive College.

Jean F. Ackiss, *Director*
Mount Olive College Annual Dinners

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 3, 4

THEY SAY

"They say!" Ah, well, suppose they do;
But does that make the story true?
Suspicion may arise from naught
But malice, envy, want of thought.
Why count yourself among the "they"
Who whisper what they dare not say?

"They say!" But why the tale rehearse,
And help to make the matter worse?
No good can possibly accrue
From telling what may be untrue.
And is it not the better plan
To speak of all the best you can?

"They say!" Well, if it should be so,
Why need you tell the tale of woe?
Will it the bitter wrong redress,
Or make one pang of sorrow less?
Will it the erring one restore
Henceforth to "go and sin no more"?

"They say!" Oh, pause and look within,
See how thy heart inclines to sin;
Watch, lest in dark temptation's hour
Thou, too, shouldst sink beneath its power.
Pity the frail, weep o'er their fall,
And speak of good, or not at all!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 5, 6

EITHER LIFE OR DEATH

It staggers the mind to try to appraise the power of words, either for good or evil. In the momentous, fateful days, when Nazism was in its nascent stage, Hitler spoke to a group of people in a beer cellar in Munich. His inflammatory words, which bristled with hate, were mirrored in the hardened faces of the evil group, and soon they engulfed the world in war.

An artist has portrayed the scene, putting on canvas the facial reactions of the group to Hitler's fiery words. He gave this title to the painting: "In the Beginning Was the Word."

What a blasphemous distortion of John's words which referred to the Prince of Peace, who came not to destroy life, but that all might have life through faith in His Name.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 7, 8

TWISTED WORDS

One day a dog stole a Quaker's roast. Said the Quaker to the dog, "I will not whip thee, or stone thee, but I will give thee a bad name!" As the dog ran away, the Quaker shouted, "Bad dog! Bad dog! Bad dog!" Soon a group of people were chasing the dog and shouting, "Mad dog! Mad dog! Mad dog!" A blast from a shotgun ended the dog's life.

How easily our words are twisted, sometimes to our embarrassment, but more often to the injury or even death of others!

If you would keep your lips from slips,
Five things observe with care:
To whom you speak, of whom you speak,
And how and when and where.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 9

WILD RUMORS

It is never safe to depend on snap judgments . . . . Half the scandal that goes around among members of the Church of Christ is simply the result of jumping at conclusions. Not long ago I read a little article in a church bulletin in which the pastor explained that he had been greatly troubled by a rumor going around to the effect that his wife had attended a meeting of some heretical group and that he had gone there in great indignation and dragged her out by the hair of her head and brought her home and beat her. He undertook to explain that he had not dragged his wife out of that meeting, that he had never at any time dragged her about by the hair, and that he had never beaten her, and also that his wife had never attended that meeting, and finally that he was a bachelor and had never had a wife!

Talkativeness is utterly ruinous to deep spirituality. The very life of your spirit passes out in your speech. Hence, all superfluous talk is a waste of vital forces of the heart.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 10:1—11:21

NAGGING

Nagging has sent many a man to destruction and driven some women to despair. You can nag

in any language that human lips have spoken. You can nag when your lips are tight shut by lifting the eyebrows, tossing the head, or sneering a sneer. It is not confined to sex. It is due to disposition. The one who nags injures himself and is cruel in the extreme to the one attacked. A good, old-fashioned quarrel is preferable. If the continual dropping of water wears away a stone, it is no less true that constant nagging will ruin the best disposition.

If you have a complaint, make it, but don't nag. If you have been injured, say so, don't nag.

If you have a soft voice, you don't need a big stick.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 11:22; 12

NOTHING DEADLIER

A woman, highly agitated, came into a pastor's study. She instantly began to speak abusively of a mutual acquaintance who had just been in conversation by phone with the pastor. He had failed, however, to put the receiver properly back into its cradle and his phone was still connected with the phone of the abused woman. And so she heard the terrible things that were said about her to the pastor. This incident was the beginning of an intense hatred between the two women. To this day they refuse to speak to each other and hatred continues to poison their hearts. Is there anything so destructive and deadly as the unbridled tongue?

In company guard your tongue; in solitude, your heart. Our words need watching. So also do our thoughts and imaginations which grow most active when we are alone.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 13; James 1

A WORLD OF INIQUITY

A lady had incurred the dislike of some members of a certain family. They were discussing her at the dinner table one day. "I hope she never speaks to me again," said one. "I hope our paths will never cross again," said another. The father had remained silent. When all had had their turn at voicing their grievances, he said, "You'll not see her again, nor will your paths cross hers again. She died an hour ago. I learned of her passing as I left the office." The faces of the slanderous ones crimsoned with shame and remorse.

Wise is the man who knows what not to say and remembers not to say it.

If any little word of mine
May make a life the brighter,
If any little song of mine
May make a heart the lighter,
God help me speak the little word,
And take my bit of singing,
And drop it in some lonely vale
To set the echoes ringing.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

THE BOOK CORNER

Frank R. Harrison
Mount Olive College

Claiming a Frontier: Ministry and Older People by Robert W. McClellan (published by the University of Southern California Press, 1977)

For the busy pastor or senior citizen director, this paperback book by Robert W. McClellan is a gem of information regarding ministry to senior citizens and ministry of senior citizens. It is a book that can have an impact on churches whose congregations contain a growing number of senior citizens. It is helpful because it flows out of the stream of actual church experience.

The author examines the demographic data, misconceptions, stereotypes and myths regarding aging, and points out the realistic needs of the older adults in the church. He examines these needs in terms of the spiritual, social and intellectual aspects of aging.

There are specific case examples of adult ministry by some churches and some concrete suggestions of ministry to be performed by older adults. The book has numerous examples of what can be done with senior citizens in what the author calls "inreach" activities and "outreach" activities.

The book concludes with a chapter on resources to which one can write to get additional material from private and federal agencies. This book is a positive contribution to the field of gerontology and the possibilities of a creative ministry with and to older adults in every congregation.

For December 11

A NEW DAY FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

Lesson Text: Isaiah 2:2-4; 62:1-3
Memory Verse: Isaiah 62:12

I. INTRODUCTION

"The church is a mutual admiration society," I heard a man say, "and religion is just a cloak of respectability behind which one hides his true nature." He went on to say that when people attend church, they insulate themselves from the real world. "Most church members are middle class, and except for an annual donation to the Salvation Army do not involve themselves in the needs of those around them."

Such generalizations are obviously untrue. Many, many persons have received help of various kinds through the ministering care of the people of God. But is it true that oftentimes we *have* forgotten many others to whom our ministry should be directed?

The people of this world suffer afflictions of many kinds. And all of us have been held in the enslaving shackles of sin.

Who are the afflicted? We all are. This lesson, is for all of us.

Last week we gave attention to God's promise of a new day for His people. The "mountain of the Lord's house," that is, God's kingdom, would be established, and His Word would go forth from Jerusalem. The result would be peace and blessing for those who would receive that word.

Chapter 60 of Isaiah pictures the glory of the new Jerusalem. Darkness that had settled upon her would give way to great brightness, and nations would walk in her light (vv. 2, 3). Great wealth would flow to her and foreigners would assist in rebuilding her walls (v. 10). The despised city would be greatly honored. Sun and moon would no longer be needed, but the Lord would be her light (v. 19). Her people would be righteous (v. 21).

Today our lesson is about the Mediator of that glory and His mission. He would usher in the new day, making known God's good news. In Isaiah's day, those who heard these words from the prophet probably understood them to indicate a return of Israel from Babylonian captivity. That return did take place and was a part of the picture. But a greater fulfillment would come, spiritual in nature, a fulfillment that would be evident enough when the good news had been heralded abroad.—*Standard Lessor Commentary*

II. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

As with Judah there are many times when we feel we are unable to realize our dreams, achieve our goals and see our visions become reality as we struggle alone. When we are in such captivity it is indeed difficult for us to maintain hope. Sometimes we bring captivity upon ourselves by isolating and alienating ourselves from others and from God. "If you would have friends, be a friend" is an old adage of great truth. If we are alienated from God it is we who have forsaken God, not vice versa. Fellowship and worship are two important facets of discipleship. The former puts us in touch with others and the latter with God. Very few, if any, dreams, goals or visions are realized by a lone individual. We all need the support and strength we receive in Christian fellowship and worship.

When captive Judah was comforted, healed and set free, her mourning was promised to be replaced with joy. When we are saddened by the loss of loved ones, death, our jobs, divorce or some failure in life, the understanding caring of someone can bring us back to joy. How desperately many need the joy of being comforted or to experience the healing of brokenness or to be freed from some captivating power such as fear or loneliness, or to experience the restoration of a faith troubled by sin.

We as Christians need to take more seriously the concept that we are called to serve in building God's Kingdom among people on earth. In the Great Commandment (Mark 12:28-34) Jesus pointed out that worship alone is inadequate. Our devotion to God needs to be expressed in concrete ways in service to God's children. Many Christians find great joy in volunteer service work which benefits people with special needs. Walk-a-thons, bike-a-thons, rock-a-thons, jump-rope fund raisers, etc. arise out of a sense of need to minister to the needs of others. Indeed it is a beautiful thing to see the "milk of human kindness" flowing from Christians and from Christ's Church as we literally become "ministers" to others because God has called us to be ministers. Dr. Sherwood E. Wirt wrote a book called *The Social Conscience of the Evangelical* in 1968. In the foreword of that book Dr. Leighton Ford makes the following comment, "Is the 'needle' of love not precisely what we need most?—*The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)*

December is Foreign Missions Month.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

We have received word from Dr. Lall in India that a visa for the van der Plas family to enter India cannot be acquired. We are not to despair, for when one door closes God always had another one open.

The Board met in special session on November 22, and appointed this fine family to the Philippines. Departure date will most likely be in March. We praise the Lord for their willingness to go anywhere for the gospel's sake. Remember them in your prayers.

Harold Jones
Director

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 11)

pray that Santa Claus does not take Jesus Christ's place in our hearts, nor in the hearts and minds of our children in care.

We look forward to our campus visitors and festivities during this time. We cordially invite you to come and share with us during this most special time of the year.

OFFICERS—CHILDREN'S HOME BOARD

The officers of the board of directors of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home for the coming year are as follows:

President, James B. Hardee
Vice President, Rebecca Davenport
Secretary, James W. Cahoon
Assistant Secretary, Charles E. Sullivan

CHURCH FINANCE ASSOCIATION

(Continued from Page 13)

Rains Cross Roads Church
Reedy Branch Auxiliary
Rock Springs Church
Rock Springs Sunday School
Rosebud Sunday School
Rose Hill Sunday School
Rose Hill Church
Rock of Zion Church
Sarecta Church
St. Mary's Church—New Bern
St. Mary's Church—Wilson County
St. Mary's Sunday School—Western Conference
Saint Mary's Grove—Cape Fear Conference
Saint Paul Church—Albemarle Conference
Saint Paul Church—Sampson County
Sandy Plains Church
Sandy Plains Sunday School
Second Union Sunday School Convention—Central
Second Union Central Conference
Second Western Union Meeting
Selma Auxiliary
Selma Church
Shady Grove Auxiliary—Cape Fear
Shady Grove Church—Cape Fear
Shady Grove Sunday School—Cape Fear
Shady Grove Church—Durham County
Shiloh Church—Albemarle Conference
Shady Grove Sunday School Class #1
Shady Grove Sunday School Class #3
Shady Grove Sunday School Class #5
Shady Grove Sunday School Class #6
Smith's New Home Auxiliary
Smithfield Church
Smithfield Sunday School
Sneads Ferry Auxiliary
Snow Hill Church
Spring Branch Church—Central
Spring Branch Sunday School—Central
Spring Hill Church
Stancil's Chapel Church
State Auxiliary Convention
Swannanoa Church
Stony Hill Church
Sweet Gum Grove Church
State Sunday School Convention
Superannuation
Tee's Chapel Church
Third Eastern Sunday School Convention
Third Eastern Union
Third Western Union Meeting
Trent Church
Trinity Church—Eastern District
Union Grove Auxiliary
Union Grove Church
Union Grove—Durham County
Unity Church—Wilson
Victory Mission
Verona Church
Watery Branch Church
Walnut Creek Church
Washington Church
Welcome Home Church
Western Conference
Whaley's Chapel Church
White Oak Church—Bladen County
White Oak Grove—Eastern Conference
Wintergreen Church
Wooten's Chapel Church
White Oak Hill Sunday School

THE CHRISTIAN NURTURER

by Bass Mitchell

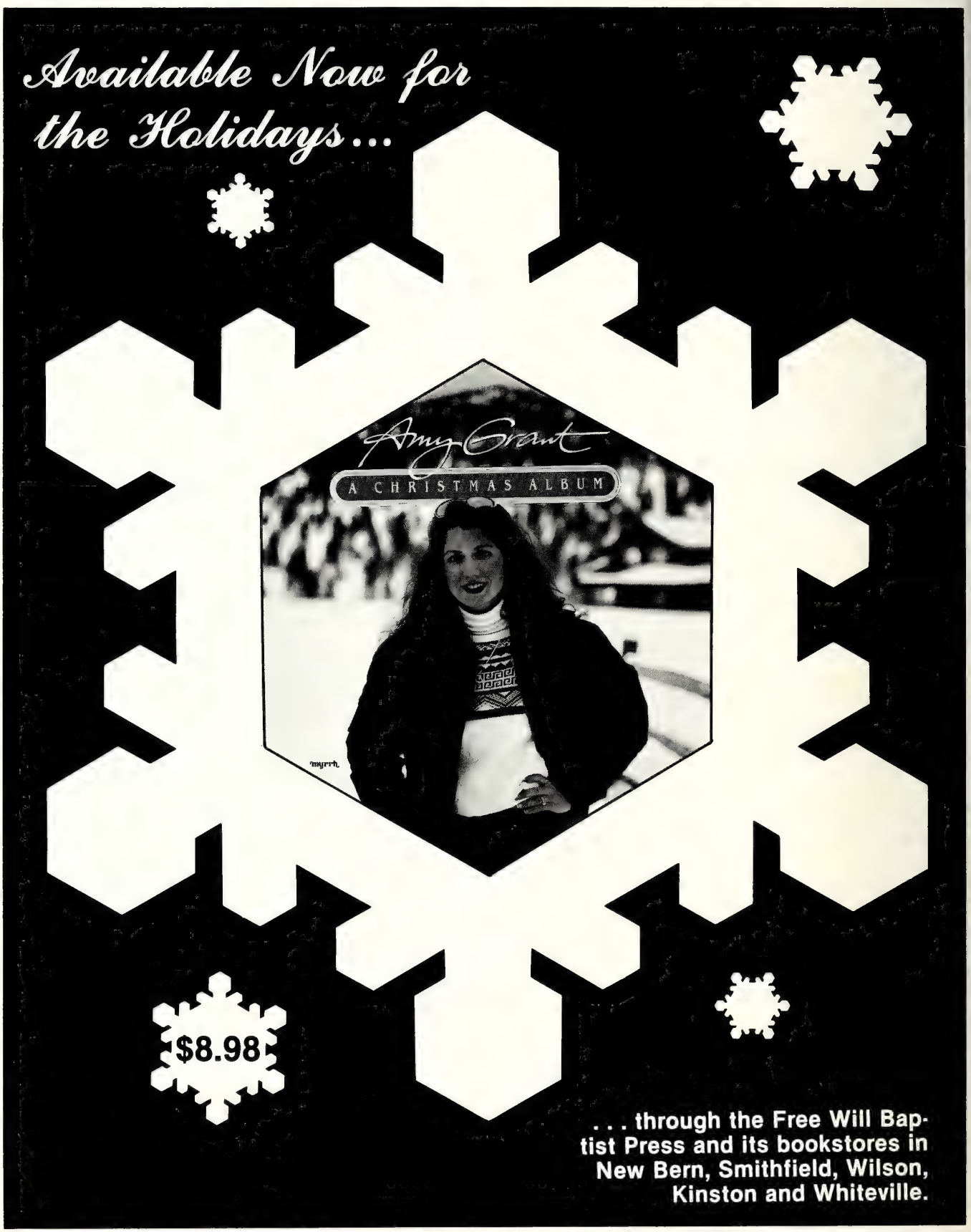
A helpful and practical book for Sunday school superintendents, pastors, and teachers is *Basic Sunday School Work.* It was written by Harry M. Piland, who is a member of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. It was published in 1980, by Convention Press, Nashville, Tennessee.

Basic Sunday School Work deals with the fundamentals of a vigorous and successful Sunday school. The first two chapters examine the mission of the church and how the Sunday school helps the church fulfill its mission. Chapters three through five deal with the basic organization of the Sunday school, the recruiting and training of workers, and the importance of good planning. Chapters six through ten explore such practical matters as conducting a weekly workers' meeting, how to increase enrollment, the importance of teaching the Bible and how this can be done with the various age groups, and helping persons live out the gospel through loving service and dedicated ministry. Discussion questions for each chapter are provided.

This book can help you build a vibrant, growing Sunday school which will help your church do God's work in your community. It can be ordered through one of our bookstores.

HANDS

I have two of them and offer them both to help to bring the gospel and oppose the wrong. There is growing demand for hands—young and old. Shaking the hand of the most unfriendliest of men and bringing them the knowledge that God is love—this is the gospel.—Mrs. Emily Ross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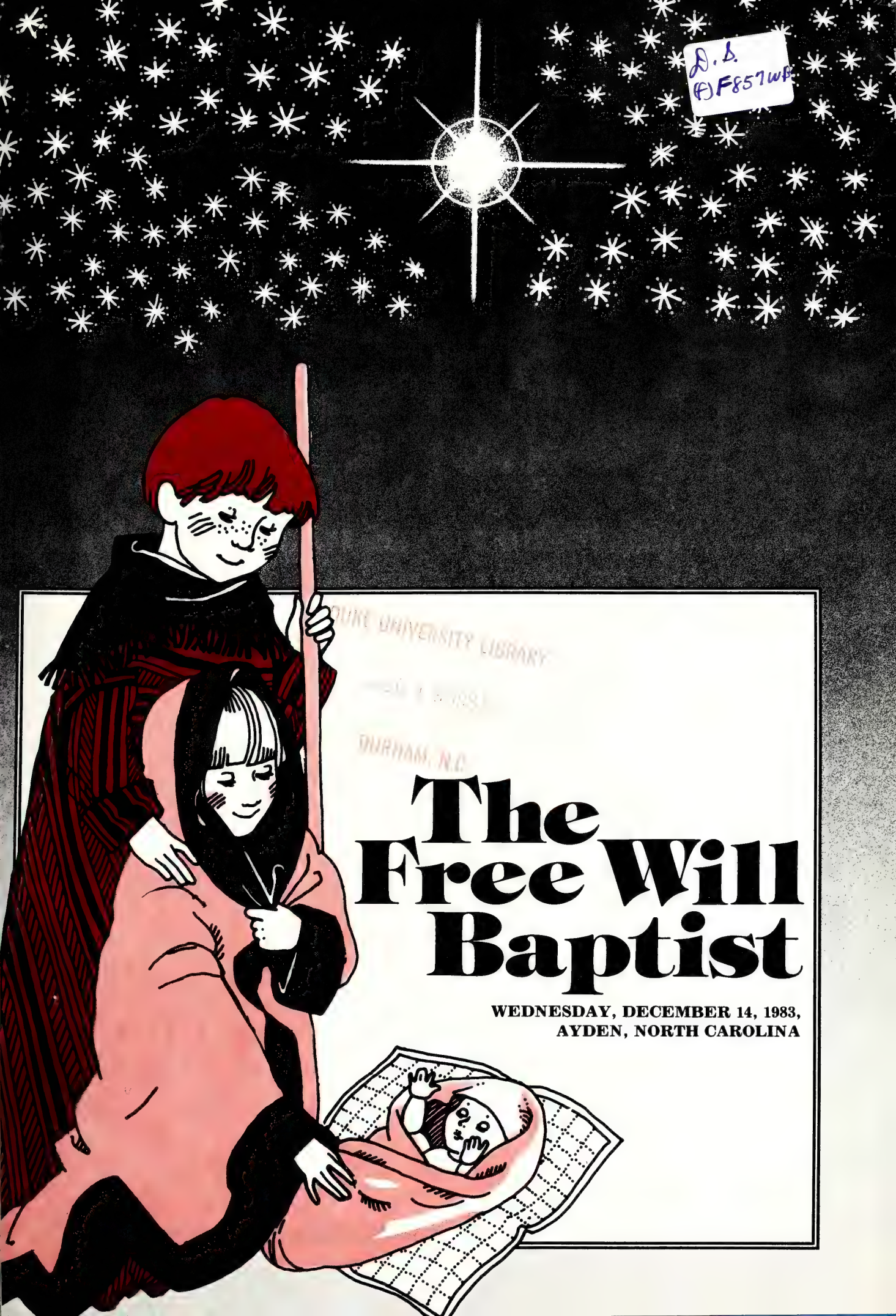

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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1983,
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 98 Number 46
December 14, 1983
Janie Jones Sowers
Editor

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Editorial

No Thanks—I'll Pass!

People in general and Christians in particular like to hang labels on others. Perhaps this is none other than the result of a societal effort to neatly compartmentalize everything and everyone.

But no matter how hard we try, this just won't work. You see, labels are inaccurate and refining definitions often leads to absurdity in terminology. For example, I am a notorious practical joker, I enjoy comedies and compare laughter to a wonderful melody—the singing of which takes a lot of my time. On the other hand, I enjoy theological and philosophical works, find mental challenges a thrill, and am usually diagnosed as a workaholic.

Now, I could be called a prankster—but that would not adequately encompass that part of my being that thrives on challenges. When I am called contemplative—an adjective that hints at being in a constant state of mental motion—the fact that I like to have fun is overshadowed by the term. When I am called a perfectionist, I merely laugh and say that's part of the job (and part of me!).

I was reminded by R. G. Puckett, editor of the *Biblical Recorder,* that "few of us hold the same perspectives in every area of life." How true, for many who call themselves conservative, do not dress, eat, or spend accordingly. Then again, I know a good number of individuals who see themselves as liberals who I would "label" otherwise.

But more often than not, labels are used to deliberately hurt others. "There was a time the so-called liberals said the so-called conservatives had no sense of reason." At the same time, "the conservatives said the liberals had no religion" (Puckett). Both statements were judgmental and inaccurate.

Al Lineberry, Past Second Vice President of the Baptist State Convention, made a statement I think we should all consider:

> "If loving Jesus Christ makes me a liberal, then let it be.
> "If loving Jesus Christ makes me a moderate, then let it be.
> "If loving Jesus Christ makes me a fundamentalist, then let it be.
> "Because, you see, I don't really know what any of those three terms—liberal, moderate, fundamentalist—really mean. But I do know that I love Jesus Christ."

In reply, I can only add a few things. If we are going to talk about people, it should be good, or to God. And, "if we are going to call each other names, we should go back to the Bible" and call them "beloved."

A PRAYER FOR ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

A Sermon Delivered To
The North Carolina State Convention of
Original Free Will Baptists
September 15, 1983
Everett Chapel Church
Clayton, North Carolina

by W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina

INTRODUCTION

It is a privilege and a responsibility to be invited to speak to this Convention. This privilege is one that may come to a person only once in a lifetime, or at the most, once a decade. In the course of fifty years, probably no more than one hundred ministers will have this opportunity.

Those of us who are invited, therefore, have the responsibility of using this occasion in a way that will be constructive and beneficial to our people. For me, a sermon is not something that I sit down at a desk at a given time to prepare, but rather it is an experience. I like to think, to read and pray until an idea is born. The idea may come as I read the Bible, walk, drive, meditate, or shave. (After today, some of you may think I should grow a beard!)

Following the birth of an idea I make notes as the subject grows in my mind. Then the time comes when I have to sit down and separate the wheat from the chaff, and sometimes there is more chaff than wheat. With a prayer that God will help to refine the thoughts until they are no longer mine but His, I try to put what is left into some meaningful order. For me, a sermon has to come from both the study and the closet, and then it is a "message."

I stand before you today as a child of the Free Will Baptist Church. My father before me was a Free Will Baptist, and some of the earliest memories of my childhood are sitting with him in church.

I grew up in the Free Will Baptist Children's Home at Middlesex (1936-1944), and when I left at the age of 16 I had been there one-half of my life.

I preached my first sermon in a Free Will Baptist Church, while I was still at the Home, and that was forty years ago.

At the age of 19, I returned to the Children's Home to be ordained by the Western Conference, and for the past 37 years I have been a minister in the Free Will Baptist Church.

I am now in my thirtieth year at Mount Olive College, a Free Will Baptist institution of higher education.

I love Original Free Will Baptists and I speak out of both love and gratitude for our Church. I may say some things today that I would resent an outsider saying, but I will say them because I love our Church.

I am not here to fill a slot on the Convention program, but to bring a "message." The foundation for this message is a letter from Paul to the Church at Ephesus:

TEXT
(Ephesians 1:15-23)

Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,

Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

(Turn the Page)

And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

This portion of the letter contains Paul's prayer for the Church, and I call upon you today to let us make Paul's prayer for the Church at Ephesus our prayer for our Church—and thus the title of this message,

A PRAYER FOR ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The City of Ephesus

The Church of Ephesus represented a major investment of Paul's life as a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ. From the Book of Acts (Chapters 18-20) we learned that Paul began his work at Ephesus towards the close of his second missionary journey, but made it the major focus of his third journey.

Ephesus was one of the three great cities of the Roman province of Asia, and its location made it an important transportation center of sea-lanes and highways. *Harper's Bible Dictionary* describes it as a "racial melting pot . . . a cosmopolitan commercial center of the empire and a battlefield of religion."

Fertility gods dominated the life of the city with legalized prostitution. We know from Acts the problems Paul had with the Temple of Diana and with the Ephesians' practice of magic. A large outdoor theater, capable of seating 25,000 people, ten times the capacity of College Hall, was located here and was used by the Romans to promote Emperor worship. It was a city of fabulous wealth to which people from all over the world came.

To this great crossroads between East and West, Paul came with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Here he could reach into the heart of the Gentile world. Ephesus became the base for a broad outreach of the gospel into the surrounding regions.

The Book of Ephesus is a letter Paul wrote back to the Christians at a later point in his life. The spiritual resources of this letter are inexhaustible. Here is spiritual food that is unsurpassed. Here we are permitted to sit with Christ in heavenly places.

In this letter Paul has put aside his arguments for the gospel. We do not find here the fighting tone which characterizes Galatians, nor the defensive spirit of his letters to the Corinthians. In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul is setting forth the plan of God in Jesus Christ for the human race. The key verses are:

Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:

That in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him (1:9, 10).

Paul declares that God's plan is to bring everything in creation—everything in Heaven and on earth, including all mankind and the universe—into unity and oneness through Jesus Christ. He sees the Church as a body with Christ as the Head.

Paul begins by showing how God, our Father, has chosen the believers to be His children. He explains how God has redeemed us, "forgiven us of our sins," through the blood of Christ (1:7).

He also explains how God has guaranteed His promise by sealing His people with the Holy Spirit:

. . . ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise,

Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory (1:13, 14).

Using the word "therefore" to indicate that what he has said before is the foundation for what is to follow, he shares with his readers his prayer for them (1:15-23).

Let us look at this prayer as if it were for our Church today, as if it were for the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. It is worth our noting that Paul used prayer to unite the Church rather than criticism to divide it.

I. "THE EYES OF YOUR UNDERSTANDING BEING ENLIGHTENED" (Verse 18)

Paul knew that any change in human life has to begin with understanding, enlightenment, and he relates this understanding and enlightenment to "the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Christ."

Simply put, the prayer of Paul is that God will *open the eyes of his people.* He wants them to have a vision of God—the great God of the universe, the God of history—who is from everlasting to everlasting.

Paul knew that our religion and our life are based upon our concept and vision of God. The Apostle knew that the concept we have of God would determine the way we think, the way we live, and the view we have of the Church. Is God the God of one nation only? If so, which nation? Is God the God of one race only? If so, which race? Is God the God of one denomination only? If so, which denomination?

One of the major problems with us Free Will Baptists is that too often our eyes are closed to the true nature of God. We are a sincere but sometimes a blinded people. We

tend to want to make God into our image rather than to let Him make us into His image. Subconsciously, we want to reduce God to our size and make Him think our thoughts about the Church, theology, Christian doctrine, race, and mankind.

In his prayer for the Ephesians, Paul wants them to see God not as the God of the Jews or of the Gentiles but as the God of all mankind (2:14-18). A key to understanding the letter to the Ephesians is Paul's use of the word "mystery" (1:9 and 3:3, 6-11). Paul felt that from the beginning of time it had been the plan of God to bring Jews and Gentiles into the body in Christ.

Paul was further persuaded that God's commission for his life was for him to be His ambassador to the Gentiles. It was this conviction of God's plan for the unity and salvation of the human race that motivated and sustained Paul as he moved against insurmountable human obstacles to preach the gospel to both Jews and Gentiles.

It behooves us to pray for Original Free Will Baptists as Paul prayed for the Ephesians—that our eyes may be opened and our understanding enlightened so that we may see God as the God and Father of all mankind. As Dr. Robert Shank pointed out to us in an earlier message at this Convention, "There is no man for whom Christ did not die."

II. "THAT YOU MAY KNOW WHAT IS THE HOPE OF HIS CALLING" (1:18)

Paul knew that once the Ephesians could get their eyes opened and have their understanding enlightened regarding the nature and character of God, they could then understand God's plan, purpose and calling for their lives.

We Christians must ask ourselves, "What are we doing in this world? Why are we here? What is our calling?"

We need to remember that the very meaning of the word "church" is "called out." The Church is made up of those who have responded to God's call. Our view of the Church, of the world and of our lives is as big as our vision of the God who has called us.

How big is our world? Do we see it as our community? Our county? Our state? Our nation? The earth? Our solar system? Or the universe? The answer depends upon how big we believe God is.

How big is our Church? Is it our Sunday school class? Our local congregation? Our conference? The Free Will Baptist denomination? The Protestant Church? Or the family of God? Again, the size of our church depends upon the vision we have of God, and whether we see ourselves or God at the center of the Church.

We have ministers who will criticize those members who are loyal to the Sunday school but not to the church, but many of these same ministers cannot see beyond the local church. Their commitment is limited to those operations over which they feel some measure of control.

One of the major problems with us Free Will Baptists is that we have made our church too small. We have driven away many sincere Christian people whose lives and services could have made us a strong and more effective Church, and much of this problem must be placed at the feet of us ministers.

I see this problem in ministers who want to substitute indoctrination for education. Some ministers want to use teaching and preaching as a method of controlling rather than developing people. Indoctrination is a way of enslaving the mind and producing an authoritarian mentality. In contrast, Christian education is a way of helping people to grow, to stretch, thereby equipping them to serve. Unfortunately, we Free Will Baptists have often been exploited by those who think that the purpose of education is to control people rather than to renew their minds.

We must also guard against those who would prescribe for our ministers a few quick courses rather than the rigorous self-discipline required for one to "Study to show himself approved unto God, a workman who needs not to be ashamed." There is no such thing as an instant education or instant spirituality. The good qualities of life come only to those who are willing to pay the price of hard work and self-sacrifice. We have too many ministers who had rather keep the Church their size rather than to grow, and by tolerating this kind of ministry Free Will Baptists have often driven away people of large vision.

Let me offer a word to laymen in the calling of a pastor. Look at the prospective minister carefully and ask, "Is he the kind of person I would like for my church to be or to become?"

Let me also offer a word to ministers. When we limit ourselves in our spiritual and intellectual development, are we not imposing that same limitation on the church we serve?

The pastor who speaks against education is not speaking in the best interest of his people. Such a pastor may not be aware of it, but he is serving his own self-interest by trying to keep the church down to his size. Too many of us have not wanted our church to grow bigger than we were. There are church officers who had rather keep their church small than to see it grow and run the risk of losing their elected position; and there are pastors whose

(Turn the Page)

dictatorial mentality drive from the church those who disagree with them.

Often we ministers have not been willing to pay the price in time, energy, and self-discipline to grow ourselves. We have not been willing to make the required commitment to prayer to grow spiritually; we have not been willing to make the commitment to an education to grow intellectually; and we have not been willing to make the commitment to good health practices to be strong physically and emotionally. (Too many of us are better known for our eating than for our praying!)

I see this problem in ministerial students who get ordained and then drop out of college—as if God is so desperate for their services that He cannot wait for them to prepare for the work to which He has called them. Persons who feel that they do not have time to equip themselves for their calling might remind themselves that God never gets in a hurry.

III. "THAT THEY MIGHT SEE THE EXCEEDING GREATNESS OF THE POWER OF GOD" (1:19)

Paul's prayer is that the Ephesians may get their eyes opened to "The exceeding greatness of the power of God towards those who believed."

In God, Paul sees the power which raised Jesus Christ from the dead (1:20), the power that is above all earthly powers (1:21), and the power that can transform human life. "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ," he wrote the Church at Rome, "for it is the power of God unto salvation for everyone that believes, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

We serve a God who can be trusted, a God who cannot be defeated. We need to make Paul's prayer for the Ephesians our prayer for Original Free Will Baptists:

> For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
>
> Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
>
> That he would grant you according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;
>
> That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,
>
> May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;
>
> And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.
>
> Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,
>
> Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. (3:14-21).

Paul reminds us that God has placed His spirit in our lives, and it is this indwelling of the Holy Spirit that gives unity to the Church (2:18). It was also the power of the Holy Spirit that broke the bonds of Judaism and sent the gospel to the ends of the earth.

Although Paul was now "an ambassador in chains" (6:20), he had had his eyes opened on the road to Damascus. From that moment on, he no longer saw God as the God of the Jews only but as the God of all mankind. Because of this experience he was willing to give his life to carry out the plan of God for the salvation of the Gentiles.

This change came in Paul's life when he realized that God was not a Jew. Paul himself was a Jew, but when his eyes were opened he saw that God was too big to be a Jew.

I am a Free Will Baptist—and I am as loyal to my church as any man—but I do not believe God is a Free Will Baptist. Sometimes, however, I think some of us would like to make God a nineteenth-century eastern North Carolina white Free Will Baptist farmer. But He is too big for that, and to try to make Him a Free Will Baptist is to be guilty of idolatry.

One of our major problems is that we want to use God to attain our goals rather than let Him use us for His purpose. When our eyes are opened to the exceeding greatness of God, however, we no longer want to make Him into our image but rather we want Him to make us into His image.

Let us pray that our eyes may be opened so that we may "see the exceeding greatness of the power of God towards those who believe."

CONCLUSION

The translation of the Bible which the majority of Free Will Baptists prize most highly is known as "The King James Version." Some of us, however, may not be aware of how the Bible came to be put in our native tongue.

The first printed English translation of the New Testament was by William Tyndall about the year 1525. Because of this work, Tyndall found it necessary to flee from his native England to the continent, but ten years later he was tracked down by agents of King Charles V and brought back to England for trial.

For translating and publishing the Bible, he was found guilty of heresy and was tied to the

(Continued on Page 19)

THE REV. N. DAN BEAMAN HONORED

by Sara Branch

The Rev. N. Dan Beaman and his family.

"To God Be the Glory" was the theme of a special occasion on Sunday, November 20, at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church near Walstonburg. This happening honored the Rev. N. Dan Beaman and memorialized Mrs. Nina H. Beaman for fifty years of dedicated service in the ministry of the Lord in the Original Free Will Baptist Church.

The program began with the Free Union Chancel Choir singing "Joy in Serving the Lord," after which the Rev. C. L. Patrick gave the invocation. A welcome was given by the pastor of Free Union Church, the Rev. Calvin A. Heath. Mrs. Barbara Wilson served as soloist for the occasion. She sang "No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus" and "To God Be the Glory."

Highlights of the service included representatives from churches Mr. Beaman has been associated with. They included Free Union, Grimsley, Rose Hill and Trinity Churches.

It was at Free Union Church that Mr. Beaman kept his membership over the many years. It was also there that he was ordained. Grimsley Church was his first pastorate. He was described as a leader for that congregation.

Mr. Beaman served at Rose Hill Church for 18 years. He was pictured as a leader, pastor, builder, and teacher for these people as they saw many improvements. He even helped with a fellowship building which bears his name.

At Trinity Church he is described as being there to help a small group of people in their hours of need.

The Rev. Bruce Barrow summarized all Mr. Beaman's life up as they had known each other some 53 years. He described him as a man who studied hard to seek the answers to scriptural problems.

A plaque was presented to Mr. Beaman from Free Union Church. An endowment fund was established by Free Union and other churches through Mount Olive College to invite an outstanding evangelistic speaker to the campus each year. These meetings will be open to the entire denomination.

Dr. Burkette Raper and the Rev. N. Dan Beaman.

A reception was held in the fellowship building after the worship service. Those attending had a chance to talk with Mr. Beaman; his daughters, Mrs. Joyce Taylor and Mrs. Mary Godwin; and grandson, Donnie.

A display of memories was shown for people to see during the time of fellowship.

ED TAYLOR —A PASTOR'S PASTOR

The Rev. Ed Taylor

Each of us could probably name several individuals who greatly influence the key decisions we make in this life. It could be a parent, a teacher, or a close friend. However, many times it is the individual's pastor who influences one to make important decisions regarding his life. Such a person is the Rev. Ed Taylor of the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church.

Mr. Taylor was called to Winterville in September, 1980. He has provided excellent leadership and has related many important truths. One of his greatest assets is his professional manner in providing pastoral care for his congregation. He is a man who is greatly used by God in caring for his flock and providing valuable assistance to their growth and maturity. In addition, he is a man of sound advice. He is deeply concerned with the spiritual, mental and physical welfare of his people. In short, Ed Taylor loves his congregation. This is not a passive love, but rather an active love of personal involvement in the lives of the people he serves.

It was this exemplary service that helped inspire us to obey the call of God and become ministers.

God always provides a person during critical decision times in our lives to guide us in the correct path. Brother Ed Taylor was God's guide for us in the ministry. He counseled with us from the beginning and instructed us in all the aspects of the ministry. His many years of experience in the ministry have given him special wisdom for serving God's children, which he has gladly shared with us. He has been invaluable in our growth in the ministry.

1 Peter 5:1-4 speaks of a crown of glory given to the type of pastor the Rev. Ed Taylor is.

"The elders which are among I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."

The Rev. Ed Taylor is our father in the ministry. We can never thank him enough for his guidance nor will we ever forget his example. He will always be our pastor.

God bless you, Ed Taylor. Your children in the ministry, —Ron Braxton and Don Ribeiro.

(Both of these men have been ordained in the ministry. Ron Braxton is the pastor of Howell Swamp Church and a teacher at D. H. Conley High School; Donald is associate pastor of Winterville Church. He is also a second-year medical student at ECU.)

RETIREMENT HOMES

NOVEMBER, 1983
Total $1,766.17

ALBEMARLE	
District Convention	$ 85.00
Total	$ 85.00
CAPE FEAR	
Hopewell	$ 20.00
Palmer Memorial	20.00
Youth Rally	100.00
Total	$140.00
CENTRAL	
Daniels Chapel	$ 20.00
Edgewood	45.00
Free Union	20.00
Friendship	20.00
Grimsley	10.00
Howell Swamp	20.00
Hugo	20.00
Hull Road	100.00
King's Cross Roads	10.00
La Grange	20.00
Little Creek	20.00
Marlboro	20.00
Ormondsville	20.00
Rose Hill	20.00
Tarboro, First	20.00
Union Number 2	12.54
Total	$397.54
EASTERN	
Bridgeton	$ 20.00
Croatan	25.00
Holly Springs	20.00
Macedonia	15.00
Sandy Plain	20.00
Smith's New Home	30.00
Westside	10.00
White Oak Grove	100.00
Total	$240.00
PIEDMONT	
Cathedral	$ 20.00
Total	$ 20.00
WESTERN	
Calvary	$ 10.00
District Convention	100.00
Fremont	10.00
Friendship	20.00
Little Rock	20.00
Marsh Swamp	40.00
Micro	20.00
Milbournie	20.00
Northern	20.00
Pine Level	20.00
Pleasant Grove	20.00
Pleasant Hill	20.00
Rains Cross Roads	40.00
Sherron Acres	25.00
Spring Hill	20.00
Stancil's Chapel	20.00
Stoney Creek	20.00
St. Mary's	100.00
Wilson, First	170.00
Total	$715.00
STATEWIDE	
Christian Service Fund	$163.63
First St. Cloud, Florida	5.00
Total	$168.63

Mrs. Maggie Lee Clayton Honored

Burbage presents plaque to Mrs. Maggie Lee Clayton on her birthday.

On Sunday, November 27, 1983, Sidney Free Will Baptist Church was able to honor a special member who has served faithfully in the church for over 30 years, Mrs. Maggie Lee Clayton.

In an unannounced ceremony during the birthday recognition portion of the Sunday school service, Superintendent Gary R. Burbage presented a plaque to Mrs. Clayton citing "with deep appreciation" her services rendered to the church. Previous to this the pastor, the Rev. Charles Parrish, presented to Mrs. Clayton a birthday cake as the congregation joined in singing "Happy Birthday."

Mrs. Clayton has served as church pianist, choir member, participated in the Woman's Auxiliary, and has taught the Adult Sunday School Class for many years. Burbage stated to the members in attendance: "This is a very special lady to all of us—someone that serves as an example as to what enduring Christian service is all about!"

Youth Fellowship to Be Held

The Youth Fellowship will be held December 31, at Sandy Plain Church, three miles north of Beulaville. The time of the services is 7:30 p.m.

Youth Choir Schedules Performance

The Youth Choir of Marlboro Church will present its annual Christmas musical on Wednesday evening, December 21. This year's production is entitled, "Psalty's Christmas Calamity" and it will delight all of those in attendance. The musical will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Marlboro Church is located on Highway 264, near Farmville.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Mount Olive College Offers An Educational Service to Free Will Baptists

A Sunday school workshop will be held on January 2, 9 and 16, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Christian Chapel Church, Lenoir County. The Paul Palmer Institute of Mount Olive College has scheduled the three-night workshop for Sunday school teachers, officers, pastors and lay persons in the Lenoir County area.

Dianne B. Riley will teach the workshop. Teaching areas that will be included are, philosophy and purpose of the Sunday school, a study of teacher characteristics, ideas for teaching the lesson (through lectures, reading, singing),

Dianne B. Riley

ideas to show with audio-visuals (projected and non-projected) and ideas for more participation (through listening, verbal expression and active participation).

In order to cover all areas listed, it is important that those attending be present for all three sessions. The workshop is open to persons from any church, and there is no registration fee.

This Sunday school workshop is being offered in cooperation with the State Sunday School Convention.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE HOSTS MEMBERS OF FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST MISSION

Members of First Free Will Baptist Mission, Wilmington, visited the Mount Olive College campus on Sunday, November 20. They joined the Mount Olive congregation for the 11 a.m. worship service in Rodgers Chapel.

After lunch, which was served in the college cafeteria, the group toured the campus. This was the first time many of the visitors had been on campus. The Rev. David Charles Hansley is pastor of the church.

THE STORY OF THE OTHER WISEMAN

Part Two

by Henry van Dyke

The others seemed to approve these words. But Artaban turned to Abgarus with a glow on his face and said:

"My father, I have kept this prophecy in the secret place of my soul. Religion without a great hope would be like an altar without a living fire. And now the flame has burned more brightly, and by the light of it I have read other words which also have come from the fountain of Truth and speak yet more clearly of the rising of the Victorious One in his brightness."

He drew from the breast of his tunic two small rolls of fine linen, with writing upon them, and unfolded them carefully upon his knee.

"In the years that are lost in the past, long before our fathers came into the land of Babylon, there were wise men in Chaldea, from whom the first of the Magi learned the secret of the heavens. And of these Balaam the son of Beor was one of the mightiest. Hear the words of his prophecy: 'There shall come a star out of Jacob, and a scepter shall arise out of Israel.' "

The lips of Tigranes drew downward with contempt, as he said, "Judah was a captive by the waters of Babylon, and the sons of Jacob were in bondage to our kings. The tribes of Israel are scattered through the mountains like lost sheep, and from the remnant that dwells in Judea under the yoke of Rome neither star nor scepter shall arise."

"And yet," answered Artaban, "it was the Hebrew Daniel, the mighty searcher of dreams, the counselor of kings, the wise Belteshazzar, who was most honored and beloved of our great King Cyrus. A prophet of sure things and a reader of the thoughts of God, Daniel proved himself to our people. And these are the words that he wrote: 'Know, therefore, and understand that from the going forth of the commandment to restore Jerusalem, unto the Anointed One, the Prince, the time shall be seven and threescore and two weeks.' "

"But, my son," said Abgarus, "these are mystical numbers. Who can interpret them, or who can find the key that shall unlock their meaning?"

"It has been shown to me and to my three companions among the Magi—Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar," Artaban answered. "We have searched the ancient tablets of Chaldea and computed the time. It falls in this year. We have studied the sky, and in the spring of the year we saw two of the greatest stars draw near together in the sign of the Fish, which is the house of the Hebrews.

"We also saw a new star there, which shone for one night and then vanished. Now again the two great planets are meeting. This night is their conjunction. My three brothers are watching at the ancient Temple of the Seven Spheres, at Borsippa, in Babylonia, and I am watching here. If the star shines again, they will wait 10 days for me at the temple, and then we will set out together for Jerusalem, to see and worship the promised One who shall be born King of Israel.

"I have made ready for the journey. I have sold my house and my possessions and bought these three jewels—a sapphire, a ruby, and a pearl—to carry them as tribute to the King. And I ask you to go with me on the pilgrimage."

His friends looked on with strange and alien eyes. A veil of doubt and mistrust came over their faces, like a fog creeping up from the marshes to hide the hills. They glanced at each other with looks of wonder and pity. One by one they went out of the azure chamber.

But Abgarus, the oldest and the one who loved Artaban the best, lingered after the others had gone.

"My son," he said gravely, "it may be that the light of truth is in this sign that has appeared in the skies, and then it will surely lead to the Prince and the mighty brightness. Or it may be that it is only a shadow of the light, and then he who follows it will have only a long pilgrimage and an empty search. But it is better to follow even the shadow of the best than to remain content with the worst. And those who would see wonderful things must often be ready to travel alone. I am too old for this journey, but my heart shall be a companion of the pilgrimage day and night, and I shall know the end of thy quest. Go in peace."

Artaban stood and watched the flame that flickered and sank upon the altar. Then he crossed the hall, lifted the heavy curtain, and passed out between the dull red pillars of porphyry to the terrace on the roof.

Far over the eastern plain a white mist stretched like a lake. But where the distant peak of Zagros serrated the western horizon the sky was clear. Jupiter and Saturn rolled together like drops of lambent flame about to blend in one.

As Artaban watched, an azure spark was born out of the darkness beneath, rounding itself with purple splendors to a crimson sphere and spiring upward through rays of saffron and orange into a point of white radiance. Tiny and infinitely remote, yet perfect in every part, it pulsated in the enormous vault as if the three jewels in the Magian's breast had mingled and been transformed into a living heart of light.

He bowed his head. He covered his brow with his hands.

"It is the sign," he said. "The King is coming, and I will go to meet Him."

By the Waters of Babylon

All night long Vasda, the swiftest of Artaban's horses, had been waiting, saddled the bridled, in her stall, pawing the ground impatiently and shaking her bit as if she shared the eagerness of her master's purpose, though she knew not its meaning.

Before the white mist had begun to lift lazily from the plain, the other wise man was in the saddle, riding swiftly along the highroad.

Artaban must, indeed, ride wisely and well if he would keep the appointed hour with the other Magi; for the route was 150 parasangs, and 15 was the utmost that he could travel in a day. But he knew Vasda's strength and pushed forward without anxiety, making the fixed distance every day, though he must travel late into the night and in the morning long before sunrise.

At nightfall of the 10th day, Artaban arrived beneath the shattered walls of populous Babylon.

Vasda was almost spent, and he would gladly have turned into the city to find rest and refreshment for himself and for her. But he knew that it was three hours' journey yet to the Temple of the Seven Spheres, and he must reach the place by midnight if he would find his comrades waiting.

A grove of date palms made an island of glooms in the pale yellow sea. As she passed into the shadow, Vasda slackened her pace and began to pick her way more carefully.

Near the farther end of the darkness, an access of caution seemed to fall upon her. She scented some danger or difficulty to be prepared for; not a leaf rustled. She felt her steps before her delicately, carrying her head low and sighing now and then with apprehension. At last she gave a quick breath of anxiety and dismay and stood stock-still, quivering in every muscle, before a dark object in the shadow of the last palm tree.

Artaban dismounted. The dim starlight revealed the form of a man lying across the road. His pallid skin, dry and yellow as parchment, bore the mark of the deadly fever that ravaged the marshlands in autumn. The chill of death was in his lean hand, and, as Artaban released it, the arm fell back inertly upon the motionless breast.

As he turned away with a thought of pity, a long, faint, ghostly sigh came from the man's lips. The brown, bony fingers closed convulsively on the hem of the Magian's robe and held him fast.

Artaban's heart leaped to his throat, not with fear but with a dumb resentment at the importunity of this blind delay.

(Continued Next Week)

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

N.C. STATE CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS
Harold Jones, *Director-Treasurer*
P.O. Box 38
Ayden, NC 28513-0038
Phone (919) 746-4963

DECEMBER IS

FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH

December 1983

Dear Foreign Missions Friends,

I have a sign on my desk during this month that reads, "Jesus is the Reason for the Season." The following story conveys this thought beautifully.

> The young man with the microphone was stopping people on the busy sidewalk, asking each the same question: "When I say 'Christmas,' what is the first thing you think of?"
>
> It was only five days before Christmas. I was frantic to find a last-minute gift, but stopped for a moment and listened.
>
> "Going home!" grinned a college boy.
>
> "Santa Claus!" A little girl jumped up and down in excitement.
>
> "Bills," a portly man grumbled.
>
> The answers tumbled forth—trees, turkey dinners, parties.
>
> As I started into a store, the piping voice of a little boy stopped me. "The Baby Jesus," he said. I turned back to see shining brown eyes, apple cheeks and a blue knit cap. "That's why we have Christmas."
>
> My eyes fell to the small notebook in my hand. Its pages were crammed with lists of things I had to do. Gifts to be bought and wrapped. Cards to be addressed. The menu for our Christmas party and the guest list. New ornaments to be selected for the tree. So many things to do, but nowhere anything to do for Jesus. I was planning a birthday party and ignoring the Guest of Honor.
>
> —Drue Duke

As you plan your giving this Christmas, please include Foreign Missions on your list. The greatest gift you can give is the gospel. Thank you in advance for what I know you will do.

Sincerely in Christ,

Harold Jones

Harold Jones

809 North Lee Street **Location: Free Will Baptist Headquarters** **Ayden, NC 28513-0038**

TILL THE WHOLE WORLD KNOWS

BETHLEHEM'S AFC VISIT CHILDREN'S HOME

The AFC from Bethlehem Church and their leaders, Mrs. Shirley Pickett and Mrs. Hilda Southerland, were our guests on Saturday, November 19, 1983. They presented Mr. Bobby Taylor, Children's Home Executive Director, with a $100 donation, which were the proceeds from their donut sale.

While they were on campus, Mr. Taylor gave them a guided tour of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, explaining our overall ministry and how their contributions are used.

Staff and residents extend to the Bethlehem AFC our fondest heartfelt thanks and grateful appreciation. Not just for your donation but for the fact that you keep us in your hearts and prayers. May God richly bless you all.

PLEASANT PLAIN CHURCH AND AUXILIARY DONATE LINEN AND TOWELS

Sunday, November 20, 1983, Mr. Bobby Taylor, Children's Home Executive Director, greeted guests from Pleasant Plain Church and auxiliary members. Representing the church and auxiliary (from left to right) are Mrs. Stella Cuempher, Mrs. Hazel Hatcher, and Mr. and Mrs. Odel Foster. Mrs. Foster is the auxiliary president. On behalf of the church and the auxiliary, they presented the Children's Home with new towels and bed linens the ever-needed commodities.

While on campus, they visited with State Cottage and enjoyed meeting and being with the children.

We wish to convey our deepest appreciation and heartfelt thanks to Pleasant Plain Church for your prayers and generosity. May the God of our fathers, from whom all blessings flow, richly bless you.

A GOOD MAN GOES HOME

November 4, 1983, our Heavenly Father looked upon Brother Isaac Furlough and decided it was time to call him to that land that is fairer than day to a house not made with hands eternal in the heavens, where he could find sweet rest.

In 1935, it was my happy pleasure and joy to meet this wonderful Christian gentleman. Brother Furlough was a man that loved God, his church and his family and friends.

His works speak for him far more than anything this writer can say about him. He served well for a number of years as treasurer of the Albemarle Union meetings. A member of the executive committee, Brother Isaac served as a lay speaker for Piney Grove Church, Roper, North Carolina. He conducted religious services at the Prison Camp near Creswell, North Carolina, for a number of years. It was my pleasure several times to assist him there.

He sang with the Mount Tabor Quartet. He enjoyed playing the piano in his church for religious meetings. This man was a faithful, loyal worker for the cause of Christ with a deep compassion of the lost.

Brother Isaac will be missed by a host of friends. It was my happy privilege to work with him in the Union Meetings, Sunday School Conventions, Albemarle Conference and Youth for Christ work.

Charlie Overton

FOUNDERS DAY 1983—BEAUTIFUL AND BUSY

A gathering of the Board of Trustees and a very special program at Rodgers Chapel marked the 32nd anniversary of Mount Olive College.

The November 22, Founders Day celebration was blessed with many visitors on campus and a day filled with sunshine.

The trustees began their day with refreshments and a tour of College Hall. Their business meeting was held in Moye Library. During the meeting Dr. W. Burkette Raper introduced four new trustees: The Honorable Gerald L. Anderson, New Bern; the Rev. William Jackie Godwin, Clarendon; Mr. William P. Kemp Sr., Goldsboro; and the Rev. M. Ray Williamson, Greenville.

At 11 a.m. the Founders Day celebration found the chapel packed with students, faculty, and area visitors. The program included a processional of the Board of Trustees, hymns and Scripture readings.

The Rev. De Wayne Eakes, president of the Free Will Baptist State Ministers Association, offered the Founders Day prayer. The Mount Olive College Concert Choir sang "All Good Gifts" and "The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune."

The Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, pastor of Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Duplin County, delivered the Founders Day address. Mr. Barrow was a member of the first Board of Trustees. He recalled the early days of the College when some people thought it "foolish" to establish a college. He pointed out that the growth and development of the College proved that there was a continuing need for Mount Olive College. "God can be trusted in difficult times," Mr. Barrow told the audience.

Trustees Eva Thorpe Harris of Greenville, John Miller Hines of Kinston and Lena C. Walston of Walstonburg received Certificates of Appreciation from Dr. Raper. The three trustees have served the College since 1977.

McCoy Endowment Announced

Dr. Raper recognized Mr. and Mrs. S. Woodrow McCoy of Cove City by presenting them a framed copy of the "Scott W., Nannie Daughety and Clemmie Noble McCoy Endowment" at Mount Olive College. Initial assets of the fund are in excess of $100,000, but the endowment portfolio includes investments that upon maturity will increase the principal to more than $165,000. The portfolio includes cash gifts, College Hall bonds, unitrusts and life insurance.

Children of the late Scott W. McCoy include L. W. of Midland, L. E. of Sunbury, Paul and S. Woodrow of Cove City, and Frances of New Bern.

The endowment consists of gifts by the children, grandchildren, relatives and friends of Scott W. McCoy.

In announcing the endowment, President W. Burkette Raper paid tribute to the McCoy family for its long-time interest in the work of Mount Olive College. "The income from this endowment will be unrestricted and it represents a meaningful investment toward helping develop Mount Olive into a four-year college," Dr. Raper declared.

President W. Burkette Raper, left, is shown with Mr. and Mrs. S. Woodrow McCoy, Cove City, North Carolina, with a copy of the endowment agreement their family has established at Mount Olive College. Mr. McCoy, a member of the College Board of Trustees, stated that the endowment was "a means of expressing our appreciation for the Christian principles taught us by our parents, and it will also be a means whereby we can support the work of our church."

The McCoy family is from Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church near Cove City in Craven County.

Lloyd Vernon Portrait

Another highlight of the program was the unveiling of a portrait of the Rev. Lloyd Vernon, first president of Mount Olive College. Mrs. Elva Vernon was assisted with the unveiling by Mr. David W. Hansley, first chairman of the Board of Trustees. The portrait will be displayed at the college.

After the chapel program the trustees met again to finish their business and to elect Trustee Officers for 1983-84.

Dr. Raper hosted a lunch at the downtown campus for the trustees and the family members who participated in the Founders Day ceremonies.

Founders Day 1983, from beginning to end, was the best of days. God's praises were sung and His faithful people honored. May Mount Olive College always be blessed with the light of God's wisdom, and may those who pass through the campus continue to grow in the knowledge, love and service of God.

SECRETARIAL OPENING

Mount Olive College is now accepting applications for the position of secretary and office manager for the Admissions Office.

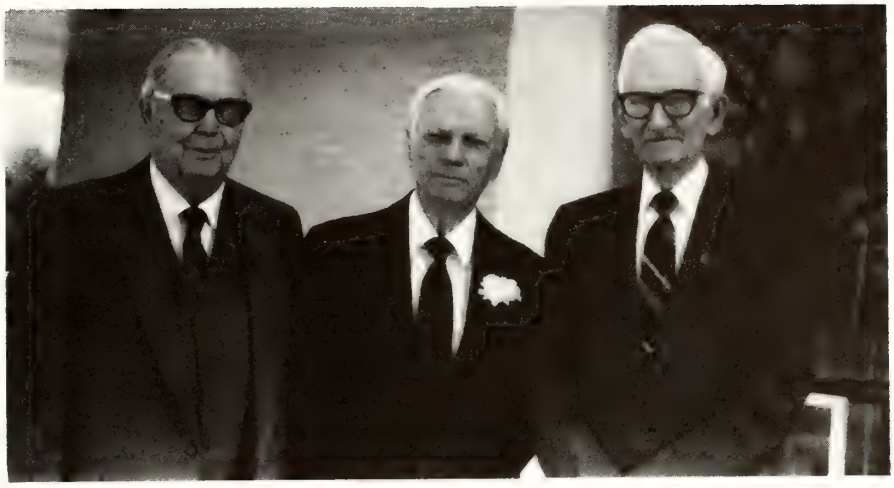
Qualifications include professional standards in dress, work habits, excellent secretarial skills, personal maturity, and a pleasing personality. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Priority will be given to applicants with office administrative experience.

Written applications, with resume, should be submitted to Dianne B. Riley, Director of Admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC, not later than December 23 (no applications accepted by telephone).

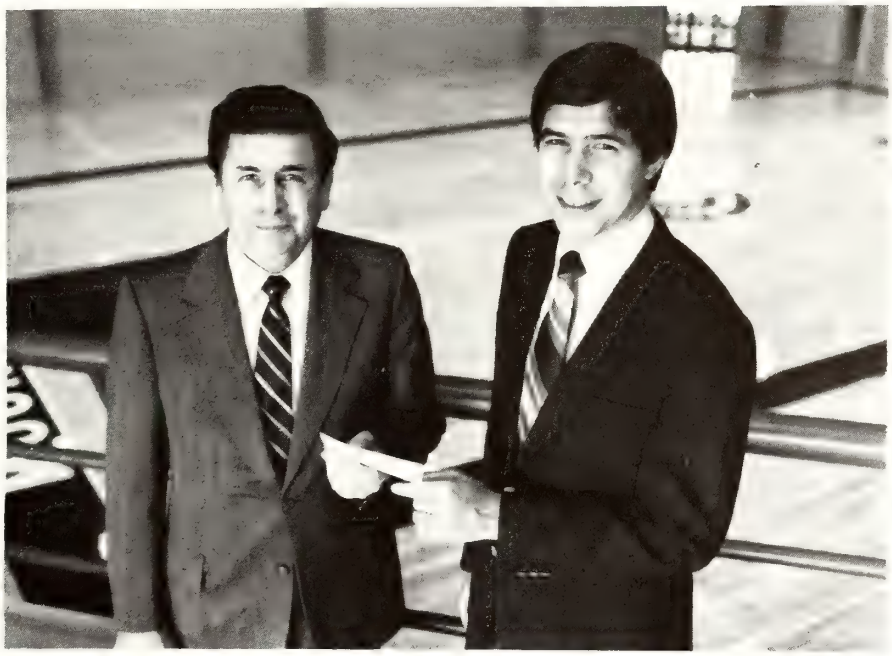
Mount Olive College is an equal opportunity employer.

December is Foreign Missions month.



THREE FIRSTS AT FOUNDERS DAY

Among the leaders in establishing Mount Olive College who were present at the 1983 Founders Day program were (left to right): the Rev. James A. Evans of Seven Springs, the first director of public relations; the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow of Snow Hill, Founders Day speaker and a member of the first Board of Trustees; and the Rev. David W. Hansley of La Grange, first Chairman of the Board of Trustees.



STATE CONVENTION BUYS TEN CHAIRS

At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, the Committee voted to contribute $500 to Mount Olive College for the purchase of 10 chairs to be used on the stage during meetings of the Convention and other church-related occasions. The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood (right) of La Grange, treasurer of the Convention, is shown presenting the check to President W. Burkette Raper. The background scene is a part of the interior of College Hall.

CHAIRS FOR COLLEGE HALL
Mount Olive College

Contributions for twenty-six chairs representing gifts of $1,300 were received during November 18-28. These gifts increased the totals to sixty-seven chairs and $3,350.

The College is seeking gifts for 800 chairs to be used during conventions, church-related meetings and special functions in College Hall. The Grand Opening is scheduled for January 7, beginning with pre-program music at 12:30 p.m.

Individuals, churches and church organizations are encouraged to make gifts for College Hall chairs at $50 each. Gifts may be

(Continued on Page 19)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

Scripture Reading—James 2, 3

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

Suppose that Christ had not been born
That far-away Judean morn.

Suppose that God, whose mighty hand
Created worlds, had never planned
A way for man to be redeemed.
Suppose the Wise Men only dreamed
That guiding star whose light still glows
Down through the centuries. Suppose
Christ never walked here in men's sight
Our blessed Way, and Truth, and Light.

Suppose He counted all the cost,
And never cared that we were lost,
And never died for you and me,
Nor shed His blood on Calvary
Upon a shameful cross. Suppose
That having died He never rose,
And there was none with power to save
Our souls from death beyond the grave!

As far as piteous heathen know,
These things that I've "supposed"—are so.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

Scripture Reading—James 4, 5

CHRISTMAS—THAT MAGIC CARPET!

Christmas—that magic carpet that wraps itself about us, that something so intangible that it is like a fragrance. It may weave a spell of nostalgia. Christmas may be a day of feasting, or of prayer, but always it will be a day of remembrance—a day in which we think of everything we have ever loved. Then we realize that He who has led us down through the labyrinth of years, born two thousand years ago, showed us the way, saying that we would have peace on earth if we love one another.

There was a gift for each of us left under the tree of life two thousand years ago by Him whose birthday we celebrate today. The gift was withheld from no man. Some have left the packages unclaimed. Some have accepted the gift and carry it around, but have failed to remove the wrappings and look inside to discover the hidden splendour.

The packages are all alike: in each is a scroll on which is written, "All that the Father hath is thine." Take and live!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 1, 2

WHERE IS THE CHILD?

A five-year-old refugee was being shown the wonders of a large toy department by his foster parents. His eyes grew wide with wonderment but gradually an expression of disappointment clouded his face. He began to search up and down the aisles and under the tables and counters. At last he burst out, "But where is the child?"

After an embarrassed silence, a store official ordered a Christmas crib to be found at once and set up in a prominent place in the toy department. At this the little boy smiled with delight.

Young as he was, he had given a lesson in the real significance of Christmas.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 3-5

WHAT A NIGHT!

That night when in the Judean skies
The mystic star dispensed its light,
A blind man moved in his sleep
And dreamed that he had sight.

That night when shepherds heard
The song of hosts angelic choiring near.
A deaf man stirred in slumber's spell
And dreamed that he could hear.

That night when o'er the new-born babe
The tender Mary rose to lean,
A loathsome leper smiled in sleep,
And dreamed that he was clean.

That night when in the manger lay
The Sanctified who came to save,
A man moved in the sleep of death,
And dreamed there was no grave.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

Scripture Reading—2 Peter

MUSIC HATH POWER

Lieutenant Gitz Rice was a member of a famous Canadian regiment which went to France in World War I. The regiment fought in Flanders' Fields. It fought across the desolate "No Man's Land" under cover of a fearsome

barrage—sometimes even without the sheltering shells.

Rice's company carried a strange implement of war—a piano. On that piano in France, Gitz Rice composed one of the famous songs of the soldiers, "Mademoiselle from Armentieres."

The afternoon before Christmas Eve it was decided that the piano should be taken up to the front-line trenches. It was hoisted into an army truck and finally deposited at its destination.

Peace had settled over "No Man's Land" that night. But the barbed wire remained and a morning attack threatened each side. The hostile troops were so close that one could hear them conversing.

Shortly before the hour of midnight Rice began playing Christmas carols in the British trench. First he played, "Silent Night, Holy Night." This was followed by "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" and other beloved carols familiar to all the Christian world.

The Canadian soldiers sang lustily, then they paused. From across the shallow field they heard the German troops singing with them. It was Christmas Eve!

Rice then played an aria from Wagner's "Tannhauser." As he began the opening chords, a Canadian soldier mounted the rim of the parapet and sang the words.

"More! More!" shouted the Germans. Then one of their own singers, a rich baritone, repeated the song to Rice's accompaniment, standing as a target for British rifles.

Such incidents bring to light the seeds of good will which are hidden in the hard soil of our embittered world. If we look for them, we can find them.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

Scripture Reading—1 John 1, 2

FEEDING AND CLOTHING JESUS

Martin was a poor, obscure shoemaker. He worked long hours every day in his little shoeshop. He made a meager living. Yet he was a joyous, friendly man, who gave a helping hand to all those in need.

One night, after a frugal meal, Martin went to bed. As he slept, he dreamed that he was visited by a most wonderful Person. He had never before seen such a kind, gentle face! "Martin," said the Visitor, "tomorrow I am going to visit you in your shop!" Martin was sure the Visitor was Jesus!

In his dream, the morrow came swiftly. How happy Martin was as he tidied up his little shop! Soon all was shipshape for the joyously anticipated Visitor. But no one came, except an old man, who had been shoveling snow. How cold and hungry-looking he was! Martin served him hot tea and bread. How grateful the man was as he left! Then a strange woman, with a scared, careworn look on her face entered. She was poorly dressed. She held close to her heart a sickly-looking little baby. Martin gave her warm, nourishing food, and as she left, he removed his jacket, and spread it over the little baby. Though there was deep satisfaction in Martin's heart because he had helped the needy ones, he felt a twinge of disappointment that the expected Visitor had not come.

Then, just before Martin awoke from his dream, he heard a soothing, tender voice which said, "Martin, didn't you recognize Me? Twice I visited you today. I knew you wanted to do kind, helpful things for Me, and this you did when you helped others in My name!"

Then Martin understood the meaning of these words, "Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these . . . ye have done it unto me!"

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

Scripture Reading—1 John 3-5

FORGIVE US OUR CHRISTMASES!

The day before Christmas had been full of incidents, some of them unpleasant. Father seemed to be burdened with worries as well as bundles. Mother's anxiety had reached the breaking point on many occasions throughout the day. Wherever the little girl went, she seemed to be in the way.

Finally she was hustled to bed. The feverish excitement of the Christmas planning had completely unnerved her. As she knelt by her bed to pray the Lord's Prayer, she got all mixed up and prayed, *"Forgive us our Christmases,* as we forgive those who Christmas against us."

As we watch the tense, nervous shoppers this season, we feel like praying as the little girl did, "Forgive us our Christmases."

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations,* Walter B. Knight.

IN A STABLE

A London city missionary went into a stable and began to talk to a jockey about the salvation of his soul.

"This is no place to talk religion, so there's an end of it!" exclaimed the jockey.

"Oh, no, that's not the end of it; it's only the beginning," said the missionary. "Christianity began in a stable. Jesus Christ was born in a stable, and you can be born again in one."

For December 18

PREPARING FOR GOD'S COMING

Lesson Text: Isaiah 40:3-11
Memory Verse: Isaiah 40:3

The coming of Christ takes many people by surprise. This was certainly true of the money changers and of those who sold sheep and oxen in the temple. How astonished the merchants must have been when He overturned their tables and said, "My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves" (Matthew 21:13)!

The woman of Samaria at Jacob's well was another who was amazed as a result of a meeting with Jesus. First of all, she wondered that He would even speak to her, a woman of a race that was scorned by the Jews. And at the end of her experience she said to her neighbors, "Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?" (John 4:29). From that day she was an altogether different person.

The apostles too were surprised that Jesus would speak to a Samaritan woman. At other times they were fully unprepared for what He said and did, often taken by surprise even though they had been with Him a long time.

Would we be prepared today to have Christ in our midst on any occasion? Or would His coming embarrass us? Our lesson today is entitled, "Preparing for God's Coming." Such a topic is appropriate at any time, but especially now, in view of the fact that next Sunday is Christmas Day.

Chapter 40 of Isaiah begins a section of the prophecy that has been called "The Book of Comfort." For the exiled Jews in Babylon it provided good news. The iniquity of Jerusalem would be pardoned (40:2). God would make it possible for the exiles to return. Even though Israel had broken her covenant with God, a new and better covenant would be made available, one that would embrace not just the Jews but all people who would turn to the Lord.

The glory of the Lord would be revealed to all flesh. From our vantage point we can see the fulfillment of this prophecy in the coming of Christ. He was to be Immanuel, "God with us." He would be the mediator of the New Covenant, making it possible for mankind to be reconciled to God. Before His coming, a forerunner would appear to herald His coming and to prepare the way.

"Prepare ye the way of the Lord!" The challenge that was issued by John the Baptist must find a response in our hearts. Do we not long to see the Lord coming with power and glory into the lives of the masses around us? There are obstacles to the spread of the gospel, but they need not intimidate us. Our anxious and distressed social order seems beset with barriers. But the God who calls us to the task of preparation also promises us the help we need to accomplish the task *if we will trust in Him.*

We must be about the business of removing the barriers. Each should first ask himself, "What are the barriers that prevent me from a closer walk with God?" Even though we may be in a worship service every Lord's Day, is it possible that habit itself has robbed us of a meaningful experience of worship? Do we simply go through the motions, or do we know ourselves to be in the presence of God with others of like precious faith? Perhaps as simple a thing as a prayer before we leave our homes on Sunday morning will help us to remove any barriers that may exist to hinder our worship.

But we must also be concerned to prepare the way of the Lord for others. In this cynical world, defiant skepticism becomes an obstacle in the hearts of many, blocking any thought of a walk with God. One of the best ways of removing such a barrier is by showing a genuine love and concern for those who are not Christian, even though they may not be very lovable. If we live in a Christlike manner before them, in all humility and joy, without any haughtiness, our example can help to remove the skepticism.

In a very practical way we can prepare the way of the Lord by sponsoring Bible study groups in our homes. We can help with surveys of communities for the extension of the church or for the planting of new churches, and we can support new church evangelism in other ways. The principle thing is for us to remember that there are barriers that separate people from God, and we should be alert for opportunities to remove them. And, above all, we must be careful that we ourselves do not become a stumbling block in the way of others.

But preparation, even the demonstration of Christian living, is not enough. "O Jerusalem . . . lift up thy voice." These words are a call for proclamation, and the gospel must be proclaimed. It is true that the Christian is saved to serve, and Jesus tells us that in serving the world's poor and needy we are serving Him. But it is also true that we are won to win. We are told to tell others. The evangelized must become the evangelists. Christ Jesus came to seek and to save the lost, and He is able to save "to the uttermost," those who come to God by Him (Hebrews 7:35).—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 6)

stake and burned alive. As the flames from the faggots reached his body he cried with a loud voice: "Lord, open the King of England's eyes."

It was 68 years later when King James I came to the throne of England. The very next year he appointed forty-seven of "our principal learned men within this our Kingdom" to give the English-speaking world the most accurate translation of the Bible possible.

In 1611 their work was presented to the King and today we know this translation of the Bible as the King James Version. In my opinion, it is the greatest literary achievement in the 1,000-year history of the English language. This work was made possible because God heard the prayer of William Tyndall and "opened the King of England's eyes."

My prayer for Free Will Baptists is that God will open our eyes to the world in which we live and to the gospel He has given us for all men. I pray that He will open our hearts and minds to the high calling we have in Christ Jesus, that we may know why we are in this world. I pray that He will overshadow us with His spirit and empower us by His might that we may overcome the world with the good news of Jesus Christ. Let us pray that God will make Original Free Will Baptists a people whom He can use.

And as we go about our work—His work—let us remember our covenant, "To keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (4:3). If we are truly sealed with the Holy Spirit, there is no conflict within that can divide us and no force without that can defeat us!

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 15)

in honor or in memory of persons designated by the donor.

	Update		
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The Free Will Baptist

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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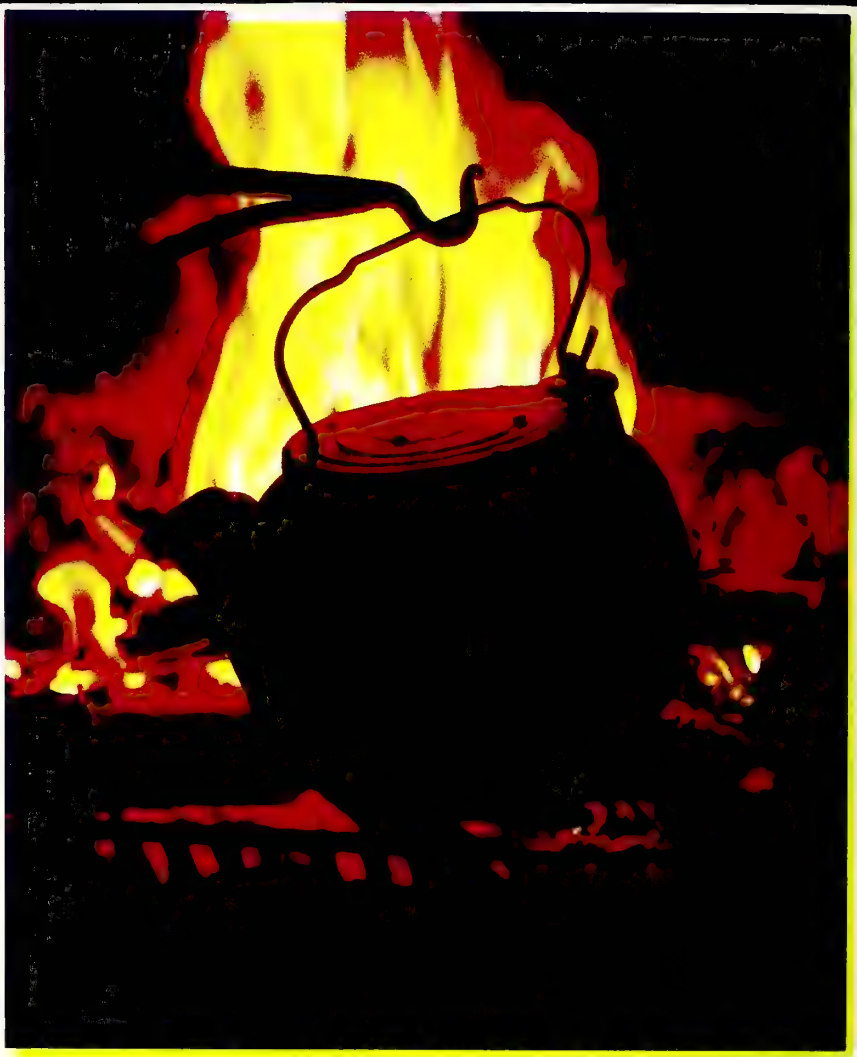


HEIRLOOMS

Up in the attic, down on my knees
Lifetimes of boxes, timeless to me
Letters and photographs, yellowed with years—
Some bringing laughter, some bringing tears.

Time never changes, the memories, the faces
Of loved ones who bring to me
All that I come from
And all that I live for
And all that I'm going to be
My precious family is more than an heirloom to me.

Wisemen and shepherds, down on their knees
Bringing their treasure to lay at His feet
Who was this Wonder, Baby yet King—
Living and dying, He gave life to me.

Time never changes, the memory, the moment
His love first pierced through me
Telling all that I come from
And all that I live for
And all that I'm going to be
My precious Saviour is more than an heirloom to me.
My precious Jesus is more than an heirloom to me.

–Bob Farrell, Brown Bannister, and Amy Grant

Christmas Readings

These readings have been selected for your holiday reading pleasure.

I AM THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

I sweep across oceans, through dark continents, into cities, into the country, into rich homes, into poor homes, into the hearts of those far away from home—into everyone's life all over the world. I go with a speed that is so well timed that I am in all parts of the world in one week's time.

People know I am coming long before I actually arrive, and big, little, old and young, black, white, brown and yellow plan for my arrival. I am the most contagious thing on the face of the earth, and if it were in the mind of anyone to try to stop me, no power, no vaccine, no order from any government could check me. When I come I touch all lives and everyone is inoculated so that he, too, breaks out with a thorough case of me. There is no way to immunize the soul against me.

But the strange part of it is that no one wants to fight against my ravages of human hearts anywhere in all the world. Instead, people plan for me long weeks before I arrive. All kinds of plans are laid for my coming; homes, schools, churches, business houses, governments talk of my coming and lay plans for my reception. They well know that I will cost them dearly in money, in time, in strain—in many ways, and yet old and young alike plan for my coming with an eagerness and a quickened heart pulse. However much of a Scrooge anyone tries to be, I come and I inject my spirit into his heart where it immediately begins to grow.

Over and above all the things and the wonderful spirit which I bring into existence, I bring to every human being the greatest hope of the world—Jesus.

—Walter B. Knight

"NO MA'AM, I WON'T—EVER!"

I saw him in the church building for the first time on Wednesday. He was in his mid-70's, with thinning silver hair and a neat brown suit.

Reflections

Many times in the past I had invited him to come. Several other Christian friends had talked to him about the Lord and had tried to share the good news with him. He was a well-respected, honest man with so many characteristics a Christian should have, but he had never "put on Christ," nor entered the doors of the church.

A Penetrating Question

"Have you ever been to a church service in your life?" I had asked him a few years ago. We had just finished a pleasant day of visiting and talking. He hesitated. Then with a bitter smile he told me of his childhood experience some fifty years ago. He was one of many children in a large impoverished family. His parents had struggled to provide food, with little left for housing and clothing.

His Story Unravelled

When he was about ten, some neighbors invited him to worship with them. The Sunday school class had been very exciting. He had never heard such songs and stories before. He had never heard anyone read from the Bible.

After class was over, the teacher took him aside and said, "Son, please don't come again dressed as you are now. We want to look our best when we come into God's house."

He stood in his ragged, unpatched overalls. Then looking at his dirty bare feet, he answered softly, "No ma'am, I won't —ever."

"And I never did," he said, abruptly ending our conversation.

There must have been other factors to have hardened him so, but this experience formed a significant part of the bitterness in his heart.

Her Lost Opportunity

I'm sure that Sunday school teacher meant well. But did she really understand the love of Christ? Had she studied and accepted the teachings found in the second chapter of James? What if she had put her arms around that dirty, ragged little boy and said, "Son, I am so glad you are here, and I hope you will come every chance you get to hear more about Jesus."

I reflected on the awesome responsibility a teacher or pastor or a parent has to welcome little ones in His name. How far-reaching her/his influence is!

I prayed that I might ever be open to the tenderness of a child's heart, and that I might never fail to see beyond the appearance and behavior of a child to the eternal possibilities within.

He Kept His Promise

Yes, I saw him in the church house for the first time on Wednesday. As I looked at that immaculately-dressed old gentleman lying in his casket, I thought of the little boy of long ago. I could almost hear him say, "No, ma'am, I won't—ever."

And I wept.

At this Christmas season, especially, Oh God, help us all—pastors, teachers, parents—to remember the lowliness of the Babe in the manger and help us show forth His love to the lowly, unlovely, and unloved! In the name of Jesus, I pray.

—Shirley Ward

AFTER CHRISTMAS

And the shepherds returned . . . (Luke 2:20).

There's the rub! From every mountaintop experience there is a road that leads back to the humdrum of everyday experience.

For the shepherds, that meant tending the flock, guarding the sheep, caring for the lambs. Scripture does not tell us that any of them left his vocation to become a full-time herald of the Saviour.

Yet, for the shepherds, life after that first Christmas could never be the same. They took the divine glory of the manger back to the daily grind of sheepherding. Indeed, we read not merely that they returned, but that they "returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen."

That is what a mountaintop spiritual experience is meant to do for us. We are to become ambassadors for our King in the workshop, in the office, and on the construction site. We are not to hide our light in the marketplace or in the home.

In Peter's case, after he had "a summit meeting" with the Lord Jesus along with Moses and Elijah, he wanted to construct tents right then and there in order to prolong the excitement of that meeting. But in the case of the Lord Jesus and His disciples "they came down from the mountain" (Matthew 17:9) to face once again human need.

There is no case for monasticism in the Bible. We are not called upon to isolate ourselves from society in order to cultivate the beatific vision. The highpoints of our spiritual experience must be related to the heartaches of people living in the valley. We are not to be recluses but relaters—relating what God has shown and told us to others.

That takes discipline and determination. In some cases converts have to be told to return

(Continued on Page 19)

IS GOD LIKE SANTA CLAUS?

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

Is God like Santa Claus? The question may seem silly, but yet Santa in many ways, is like God. Omnipresent, Santa is on every street corner; travels the entire globe in one night. Omniscient, Santa sees you when you're sleeping. A moral judge, Santa is "gonna find out who's naughty and nice." For supernatural helpers, Santa has his elves and flying reindeer. Santa comes close to being the "god" of Christmas. But our chief concern is the opposite: God is thought by many to be like Santa Claus.

SANTA'S PRESENCE AND GOD'S PRESENCE

Santa's presence—he visits his children one day a year and spends 364 days in a white place called the North Pole. There he is secretly watching and keeping record, but gives no help in daily life.

Many have similar ideas about God's presence. He is supposed to be an old man with a long white beard who lives in a golden place called Heaven. He is more or less keeping records of things, but is not present and active in our lives.

But the real God is present and active. He is no less present in one place than another. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would be ever present. We are commanded to keep in communication with God. God doesn't want to be just a Christmas and Easter God.

SANTA'S BELIEVABILITY AND GOD'S BELIEVABILITY

Santa's believability—belief in Santa is supposed to be for childhood only. Sooner or later we all find out that he is not too real. We seem to think that faith is something that you outgrow. When we become parents, we will teach Santa to our children, and the cycle continues.

Many have similar ideas about God's believability. We hear the common phrase many times; Christmas is for children. It is not for adults but for the young at heart. Then we must have a lot of old people that are young at heart who don't believe that faith is meant to be outgrown. For others, belief is just a pleasant experience of childhood, and Luke 2 is reduced to the level of Rudolph the reindeer story.

The real God is the Lord of all life. Believe in Him as your Saviour, not as a sentimental childhood story. Christ is for adult and child, male and female, rich and poor. He is no respecter of persons. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever, He changes not.

SANTA'S STANDARDS OF JUDGMENT AND GOD'S STANDARDS OF JUDGMENT

Santa's standard is to keep a record and to give gifts accordingly (a kind of works salvation). Children discover that it doesn't really happen that way. They find that no matter how they act, they always receive gifts at Christmas. So they learn that Santa's judgments are just idle threats.

Many have a similar idea about God's judgments, and therefore many believe in a works salvation. They just don't believe that God is very strict. He just bluffs and never enforces anything. He threatens with Hell, but won't send anyone there.

The real God is a holy God. Consider Isaiah's vision (Isaiah 6:1-5). God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows that he will also reap. Did you know there are many Santa Claus sermons preached at funerals? Still they cannot change the one that is dead. We need to return to a healthy fear of God (Psalm 111:10).

God saves by forgiving and not by forgetting. God conquered evil, not by pretending it wasn't there, but by sending Christ to deal with it. That we have all sinned is realistic appraisal of mankind. We don't earn our salvation; it is God's grace. It is a gift He gives to us. We are not our own; we have been bought with a price.

God isn't like Santa Claus. His Christmas gift is not dependent on who's naughty or nice. His gift has already been paid for and is the most expensive gift of all. It is expensive because He gave His life by the shedding of His blood. There is no other price that could have paid the price as the blood of Christ did. Although it is the most expensive gift, it is free to you just for the asking. It is available to all who will receive it by faith. Faith is not a childhood game, but a total lifetime commitment.

The Story of the Other Wiseman

Conclusion
by Henry van Dyke

How could he stay here in the darkness to minister to a dying stranger? If he lingered but for an hour he could hardly reach Borsippa at the appointed time. His companions would think he had given up the journey. They would go without him. He would lose his quest.

But if he went on now, the man would surely die. If he stayed, life might be restored. His spirit throbbed and fluttered with the urgency of the crisis. Should he risk the great reward of his divine faith for the sake of a single deed of human love? Should he turn aside, if only for a moment, from following the star to give a cup of cold water to a poor, perishing Hebrew?

"God of Truth and Purity," he prayed, "direct me in the holy path, the way of wisdom which only Thou knowest."

Then he turned back to the sick man. Loosening the grasp of his hand, he carried him to a little mound at the foot of the palm tree. He brought water from one of the small canals nearby and moistened the sufferer's brow and mouth. Hour after hour he labored as only a skillful healer of disease can do. At last the man's strength returned; he sat up and looked about him.

"Who art thou?" he said in the rude dialect of the country, "and why hast thou sought me here to bring back my life?"

"I am Artaban the Magian, and I am going to Jerusalem in search of One who is to be born King of the Jews, a great Prince and Deliverer of all men. I dare not delay any longer upon my journey, for the caravan that has waited for me may depart without me. But see, here is all that I have left of bread and wine, and here is a potion of healing herbs.

The Jew raised his trembling hand solemnly to Heaven.

"Now may the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob bless and prosper the journey of the merciful, and bring him in peace to his desired haven. But stay; I have nothing to give thee in return—only this: that I can tell thee where the Messiah must be sought. For our prophets have said that He should be born not in Jerusalem but in Bethlehem of Judah. May the Lord bring thee in safety to that place, because thou hast had pity upon the sick."

It was already long past midnight. Artaban rode in haste, and Vasda, restored by the brief rest, ran eagerly.

But the first beam of the sun sent her shadow before her as she entered upon the final stadium of the journey, and the eyes of Artaban, anxiously scanning the Temple of the Seven Spheres, could discern no trace of his friends.

Artaban dismounted and climbed to the highest terrace, looking out toward the west. There was no sign of the caravan of the wise men, far or near.

At the edge of the terrace he saw a little cairn of broken bricks, and under them a piece of parchment. He caught it up and read: "We have waited past the midnight and can

delay no longer. We go to find the King. Follow us across the desert."

Artaban sat down upon the ground and covered his head in despair.

"How can I cross the desert," said he, "with no food and with a spent horse? I must return to Babylon, sell my sapphire, and buy a train of camels and provision for the journey. I may never overtake my friends. Only God the merciful knows whether I shall not lose the sight of the King because I tarried to show mercy."

For the Sake of a Little Child

High upon the back of his camel, rocking steadily like a ship over the waves, Artaban moved onward, until he arrived at Bethlehem. And it was the third day after the three wise men had come to that place and had found Mary and Joseph, with the young child, Jesus, and had lain their gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh at His feet.

Then the other wise man drew near, weary but full of hope, bearing his ruby and his pearl to offer to the King. "For now at last," he said, "I shall surely find Him, though it be alone and later than my brethren. But I must inquire about their visit and to what house the star directed them, and to whom they presented their tribute."

The streets of the village seemed to be deserted. From the open door of a low stone cottage he heard the sound of a woman's voice singing softly. He entered and found a young mother hushing her baby to rest. She told him of the strangers from the Far East who had appeared in the village three days ago, how they said that a star guided them to the place where Joseph of Nazareth was lodging with his wife and her newborn child, and how they had paid reverence to the child and given Him many rich gifts.

"But the travelers disappeared again," she continued, "as suddenly as they had come. We were afraid. The man of Nazareth took the babe and his mother and fled away that same night secretly, and it was whispered that they were going far away to Egypt. Ever since there has been a spell upon the village; something evil hangs over it. They say that the Roman soldiers are coming from Jerusalem to force a new tax from us, and the men have driven the flocks and herds far back among the hills and hidden themselves to escape it."

Artaban listened to her gentle, timid speech, and the child in her arms looked up in his face and smiled, stretching out its rosy hands to grasp at the winged circle of gold on his breast. His heart warmed to the touch.

The young mother laid the babe in its cradle and rose to minister to the wants of the strange guest that fate had brought into her house. She set food before him, the plain fare of peasants. Artaban accepted it gratefully. As he ate, the child fell into a happy slumber and murmured sweetly in its dreams, and a great peace filled the quiet room.

But suddenly there came the noise of a wild confusion and uproar in the streets of the village, a shrieking and wailing of women's voices, a clangor of swords and a desperate cry: "The soldiers! The soldiers of Herod! They are killing our children."

The young mother's face grew white with terror. She clasped her child to her bosom and crouched motionless in the darkest corner of the room, covering him with the folds of her robe, lest he should wake and cry.

But Artaban went quickly and stood in the doorway of the house. His broad shoulders filled the portal from side to side, and the peak of his white cap all but touched the lintel.

The soldiers came hurrying down the street with bloody hands and dripping swords. At the sight of the stranger in his imposing dress, they hesitated with surprise. The captain of the band approached the threshold to thrust him aside. But Artaban did not stir. His face was as calm as though he were watching the stars, and in his eyes burned that steady radiance before which even the half-tamed hunting-leopard shrinks and the fierce bloodhound pauses in his leap. He held the soldier silently for an instant and then said, in a low voice:

"I am all alone in this place, and I am waiting to give this jewel to the prudent captain who will leave me in peace."

He showed the ruby, glistening in the hollow of his hand like a great drop of blood.

The captain was amazed at the splendor of the gem. The pupils of his eyes expanded with desire, and the hard lines of greed wrinkled around his lips. He stretched out his hand and took the ruby.

"March on!" he cried to his men. "There is no child here. The house is still."

Artaban re-entered the cottage. He turned his face to the east and prayed:

"God of Truth, forgive my sin! I have said the thing that is not, to save the life of a child. And two of my gifts are gone. I have spent for man that which was meant for God. Shall I ever be worthy to see the face of the King?"

But the voice of the woman, weeping for joy in the shadow behind him, said very gently:

"Because thou hast saved the life of my little one, may the Lord bless thee and keep thee; the Lord make His face to shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee; the Lord lift up His

(Turn the Page)

countenance upon thee and give thee peace."

In the Hidden Way of Sorrow

Artaban moved among the throngs of men in populous Egypt, seeking everywhere for traces of the household that had come down from Bethlehem.

In an obscure house of Alexandria, he took counsel with a Hebrew rabbi. The venerable man, bending over the rolls of parchment on which the prophecies of Israel were written, read aloud the pathetic words that foretold the sufferings of the promised Messiah—the despised and rejected of men, the man of sorrows and the acquaintance of grief.

"And remember, my son," said he, fixing his deep-set eyes upon the face of Artaban, "the King whom you are seeking is not to be found in a palace, nor among the rich and powerful.

"I do not know how the turbulent kings and peoples of earth shall be brought to acknowledge the Messiah and pay homage to Him. But this I know. Those who seek Him will do well to look among the poor and the lowly, the sorrowful and the oppressed."

Artaban visited the oppressed and the afflicted in the gloom of subterranean prisons, and the crowded wretchedness of slave-markets, and the weary toil of galley-ships. In all this populous and intricate world of anguish, though he found none to worship, he found many to help. His years went by more swiftly than the weaver's shuttle that flashed back and forth through the loom while the web grows and the invisible pattern is completed.

It seemed almost as if he had forgotten his quest. Once, as he stood alone at sunrise, waiting at the gate of a Roman prison, he took from a secret resting place in his bosom the pearl, the last of his jewels. As he looked at it, a mellower luster, a soft and iridescent light, full of shifting gleams of azure and rose, trembled upon its surface. It seemed to have absorbed some reflection of the colors of the lost sapphire and ruby.

A Pearl of Great Price

Three-and-thirty years of the life of Artaban had passed away, and he was still a pilgrim and a seeker after light. His hair, once darker than the cliffs of Zagros, was now white as the wintry snow that covered them. His eyes that once flashed like flames of fire were dull as embers smoldering among the ashes.

Worn and weary and ready to die, but still looking for the King, he had come for the last time to Jerusalem.

It was the season of the Passover. The city was thronged with strangers. The children of Israel, scattered in far lands all over the world, had returned to the Temple for the great feast, and there had been a confusion of tongues in the narrow streets for many days.

But on this day there was a singular agitation visible in the multitude.

Artaban joined company with a group of people from his own country. Parthian Jews who had come up to keep the Passover, and inquired of them the cause of the tumult and where they were going.

"We are going," they answered, "to the place called Golgotha, outside the city walls, where there is to be an execution. Have you not heard what has happened? Two famous robbers are to be crucified, and with them another, called Jesus of Nazareth, a man who has done many wonderful works among the people. But the priests and elders have said that He must die because He gave Himself out to be the Son of God. And Pilate has sent Him to the Cross because He said that He was the 'King of the Jews.' "

How strangely these familiar words fell upon the tired heart of Artaban. They had led him for a lifetime over land and sea. And now they came to him darkly and mysteriously like a message of despair. The King had arisen, but He had been denied and cast out. He was about to perish. Perhaps He was already dying. How could it be?

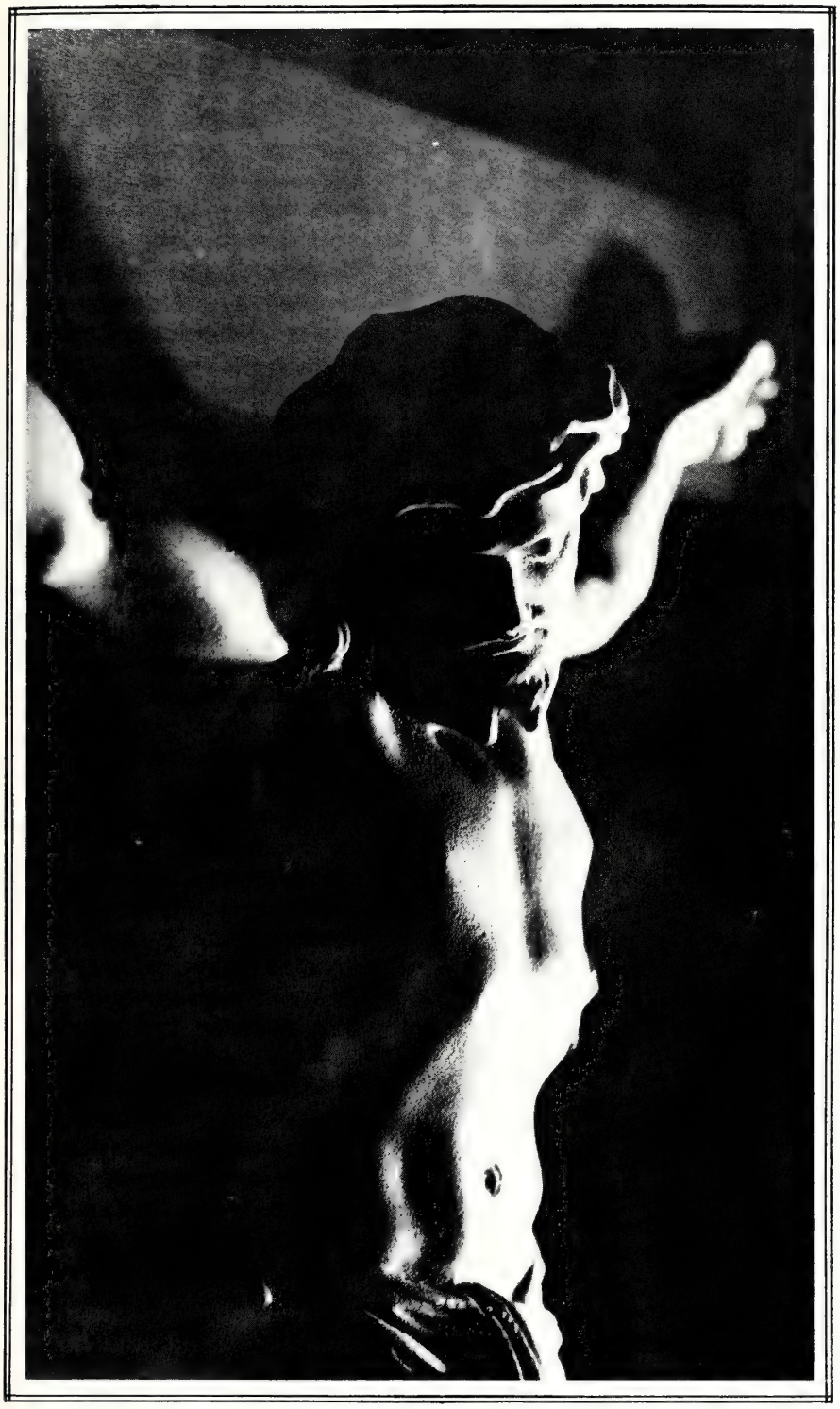
Artaban's heart beat unsteadily with that troubled, doubtful apprehension which is the excitement of old age. But he said within himself: "The ways of God are stranger than the thoughts of men, and it may be that I shall find the King, at last, in the hands of His enemies, and shall come in time to offer my pearl for His ransom before He dies."

So the old man followed the multitude with slow and painful steps toward the Damascus gate of the city. Just beyond the entrance of the guardhouse, a troop of Macedonian soldiers came down the street, dragging a young girl with torn dress and disheveled hair. As the Magian paused to look at her with compassion, she broke suddenly from the hands of her tormentors and threw herself at his feet, clasping him around the knees. She had seen his white cap and winged circle on his breast.

"Have pity on me," she cried, "and save me, for the sake of the God of Purity! I also am a daughter of the true religion which is taught by the Magi. My father was a merchant of Parthia, but he is dead, and I am seized for his debts to be sold as a slave. Save me from worse than death."

Artaban trembled. It was the old conflict of his soul, which had come to him in the palm grove of Babylon and in the cottage at Bethlehem—the conflict between the expectation of faith and the impulse of love.

He took the pearl from his bosom. Never had it seemed so



luminous, so radiant, so full of tender, living luster. He laid it in the hand of the slave.

"This is thy ransom, daughter! It is the last of my treasures which I kept for the King."

While he spoke, the darkness of the sky thickened, and shuddering tremors ran through the earth, heaving convulsively like the breast of one who struggles with mighty grief.

The walls of the houses rocked to and fro. Stones were loosened and crashed into the street. Dust clouds filled the air. The soldiers fled in terror, reeling like drunken men. But Artaban and the girl whom he had ransomed crouched helpless beneath the wall of the Praetorium.

What had he to fear? What had he to live for? He had given away the last remnant of his tribute for the King. He had parted with the last hope of finding Him. The quest was over, and it had failed. But, even in that thought, accepted and embraced, there was peace.

One more lingering pulsation of the earthquake quivered through the ground. A heavy tile, shaken from the roof, fell and struck Artaban on the temple.

The old man lay breathless and pale, with his gray head resting on the young girl's shoulder, and the blood trickling from the wound. As she bent over him, fearing that he was dead, there came a voice through the twilight, very small and still, like music sounding from a distance, in which the notes are clear but the words are lost.

Then the old man's lips began to move, as if in answer, and she heard him say in the Parthian tongue:

"Not so, my Lord. For when saw I Thee hungered and fed Thee? Or thirsty, and gave Thee drink? When saw I Thee a stranger, and took Thee in? Or naked, and clothed Thee? When saw I Thee sick or in prison, and came unto Thee? Three-and-thirty years have I looked for Thee, but I have never seen Thy face, nor ministered to Thee, my King."

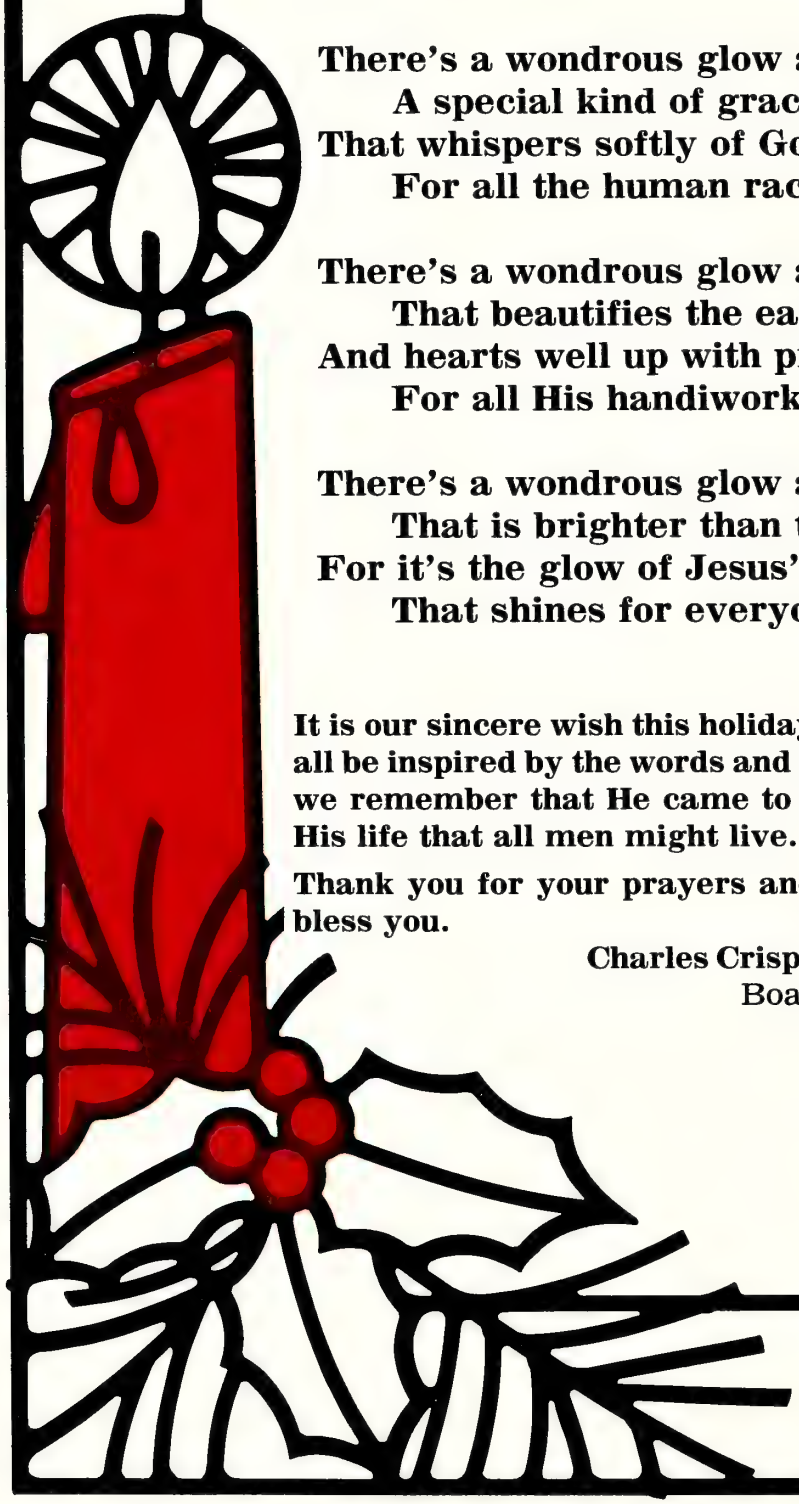
He ceased, and the sweet voice came again. And again the maid heard it, very faintly and far away. But now it seemed as though she understood the words:

"Verily I say unto thee, inasmuch as thou hast done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, thou hast done it unto Me."

A calm radiance of wonder and joy lighted the pale face of Artaban like the first ray of dawn on a snowy mountain peak. One long, last breath of relief exhaled gently from his lips.

His journey was ended. His treasures were accepted. The other wise man had found the King.

Merry Christmas



There's a wondrous glow at Christmastime,
A special kind of grace,
That whispers softly of God's love
For all the human race.

There's a wondrous glow at Christmastime
That beautifies the earth,
And hearts well up with praises
For all His handiwork.

There's a wondrous glow at Christmastime
That is brighter than the sun,
For it's the glow of Jesus' love
That shines for everyone.

—Patricia Emme

It is our sincere wish this holiday season that we will all be inspired by the words and life of our Lord. May we remember that He came to this world and gave His life that all men might live.

Thank you for your prayers and support. May God bless you.

Charles Crisp, *Executive Director*
Board of Home Missions

Hallelujah!

CHRISTMAS—BECAUSE YOU CARE

There are those in these three countries who will celebrate Christmas for the first time with the Christ of Christmas in their hearts. They came to know Christ because you pray and give so the gospel message can be shared in their land. This should add extra joy to your Christmas celebration.

In a few days, 1983 will be history and a new year will begin. I encourage you to so get the lost of this earth on your heart that you will pray and give as never before during 1984, so when Christmas comes again many others will celebrate this blessed event with us.

From the Board of Foreign Missions and your Missions Family, we pray that you will have a happy Christmas and a blessed and prosperous New Year.

Children's Home

"THANKS TO YOU"

From the Children's Home

It is with grateful hearts and fondest appreciation that we say a very humble "Thank You" to all of you for your overwhelming generosity this 1983 Christmas Season. We cannot begin to tell you what a grand experience it was for our children, nor how truly happy you made each one of them. The parties, gifts, offerings, and especially your presence, were so meaningful. Your devoted stewardship to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home and to the children in our care is indeed a truer reflection of your devotion to our Lord. And for that we are so thankful! The success of our ministry in Child Care depends so much upon our supporters and sponsors. Without you, we could never fulfill this ministry. It is important that you realize your worth to us at the Children's Home. We wish we could offer more in return than a simple Thank You. But in its simplicity, it is deeply and sincerely from our hearts.

The Lord has so mercifully supplied our needs during this Christmas Season, and we are indeed most fortunate that God has used you to minister to our children.

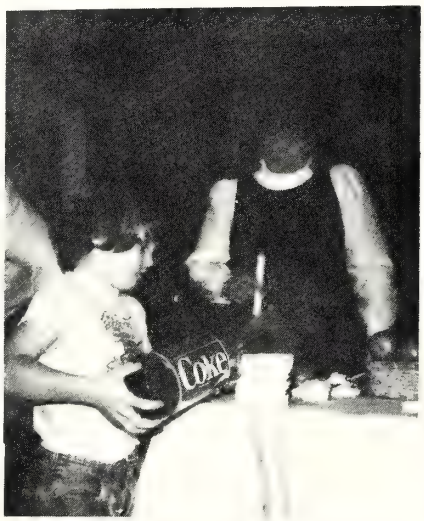
Please, again, accept our many thanks. Our prayers are that God will bless you each and every one in His own special way. May His love ever protect and keep you.

Our Thanks, and God Bless You,
Your Child Care Ministry

MOUNT ZION YOUTH VISIT HOME

Free Will Baptist Youth Fellowship Associations are "action organizations," and the Mount Zion YFA from Lucama proved it again on Tuesday night, December 6, by coming to the Children's Home for a Christmas party. Delicious refreshments were enjoyed by youth from the Children's Home and those of the YFA, along with adult sponsors of both groups. (I can tell already that a "long-term diet" will be at the top of the list for New Year's resolutions among our Children's Home staff this coming new year!) An added "touch of the season" was enjoyed as Christmas carols were sung by all present to night-cap the evening.

Larry and Deborah Isenhour with Mount Zion YFA youth.



Oops! Jonathan, you'll need to work on that arm!

We appreciate our local churches. Therein lies the lifeblood of our denomination. It is a blessing to see local church ministries "blossom out" into their communities in efforts to better serve our Lord. Thank you, Mount Zion YFA, for your kindness in helping make Christmas at our Children's Home "just a little bit nicer!"

THE GIFTS KEEP ROLLING IN!

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!" And praise Him for touching hearts through whom His blessings flow. How He has continued to bless our ministry at the Children's Home.

We recently received an unexpected letter from Mr. James L. Matthews, president of the Interstate Tire Company, Wilson, North Carolina, with a check for $3,000 enclosed. In the letter, Mr. Matthews requested, "We would like for each child to receive $100 for his personal use at Christmas and the balance to be used for any other worthy cause at the Home!" On December 14, at our Community Worship Service, the children were each presented the gifts from Interstate Tire Company. It goes without saying that the children were all overwhelmed by the Company's generosity. Our houseparents will be "guiding" the younger children in selecting uses for their money, and our older youth will be using the gifts for personal needs at their own discretion.

We want to publicly acknowledge this generous gift and whole-heartedly express our appreciation to the Interstate Tire Company for their continued interest and contributions toward meeting the personal needs of our children.

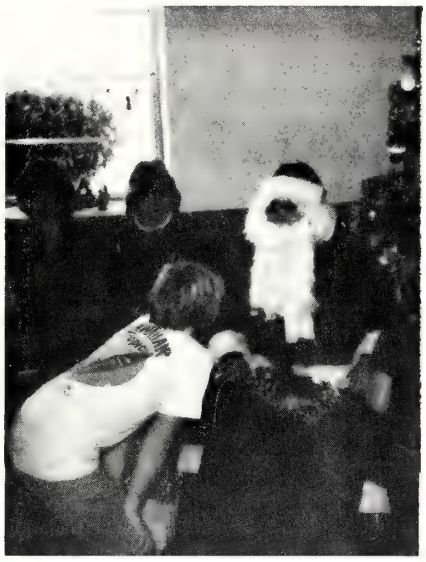
"HARLEY-CLAUS"

What happened to the reindeer? Anyone might have asked that question if they had been standing at the entrance to the Children's Home campus on Sunday, December 4. With a rumble and a toot, wearing shiny black boots, came dear old Santa (better known as Ed Savage) on his Harley-Davidson show cycle, followed by a most unusual looking group of elves and helpers, numbering about thirty. Cruising in at about thirty, the group circled solemnly around the

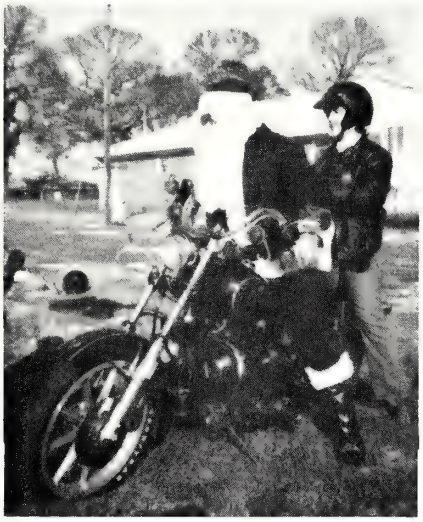
campus twice, as if stalking a prey. By this time, the children were almost estatic with excitement as they watched the twin-row motorcade file into a showcase line in front of the campus recreation building. But as much as outward appearance might have led to believe, these cyclists were not dirty, smelly renegades carrying blades and chains. Rather, they were smiling men, riding double with wives or girlfriends; businessmen, technicians, and professional people, just like you and me. They were all members of a local organization known as "The Concerned Bikers Association" of the Raleigh chapter. Following close behind were a van, and several cars which were loaded with soft drinks, cookies, candies, and gifts for all of the children at our Children's Home. The excitement heightened as the youngsters moved in closer to admire the shiny bikes. The visitors warmly encouraged their admirers to get a close-up look at their modified reindeer . . . and they did!

As the group moved to the inside of the recreation building, refreshments were set up while Santa took a good survey of the Christmas wishes of children from ages four to forty, and older! Members of the Bikers Association mingled and chatted freely with the children, members of visiting families, and other friends of the Children's Home who came up for the occasion. Then came the time for giving out the gifts, and Santa learned first-hand what "close fellowship" is like among Free Will Baptists! It was heart-warming to see that such great care had been taken to choose gifts that were "just right" for each child's interests and age levels.

But this wasn't the end of it, as gift opening traditionally is! It was only an introduction to the grand finale that was to give the children an experience that will long be remembered. Suddenly, children were coming from all directions, hopping on the bikes of their choice. Engines began roaring, helmets began shining in the sunlight and smiles, "ear to ear," were plastered on the children's faces for at least thirty minutes, while they were thrilled by nippy rides on the bikes! A tour of the campus had never been so good!



"Are all these for me?"



Now that's what I call class, Heidi!

At last the party had to end, and the festive group uttered a hearty "Merry Christmas" as they rode out of sight; but, not without the promise of a return visit this summer for a full day of summer fun and activities.

We at the Children's Home are grateful that people continue to care about children!

Mrs. Pittman from Unity Church distributes the "controversial gifts!"

"What a spread!" (Diets in the forecast).

GROUP VISITS HOME

On Thursday night, December 8, representatives of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Unity Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson came to the Children's Home with Yuletide greetings. The group was made up of Auxiliary members, accompanied by their families, a number of youth from the church, and the pastor. The ladies "outdid themselves" in providing fresh-baked chocolates and candies for the party and weren't permitted to leave without the promise of follow-up recipes! To highlight the occasion, the children were each presented a "Controversial Christmas Gift" . . . it was over the names of the school printed on the gifts (e.g. N.C.

(Continued on Page 19)

Mount Olive College

COMING EVENTS

"Christmas Carrousel" *December 24,* 11 p.m., WITN-TV (Channel 7, Washington) The Mount Olive College Concert Choir performs. Introduction by Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president.

Jim Burns Show *January 3,* 11:30 a.m., WECT-TV (Channel 6, Wilmington) Dr. W. Burkette Raper, guest appearance.

Grand Opening College Hall *January 7* 10 a.m. College Hall and campus Open House tours begin.

Noon College Hall tours end until after program.

12:30 p.m. Pre-program music begins in College Hall.

12:45 p.m. Grand procession.

1 p.m. Program in College Hall.

2:45 p.m. College Hall and campus Open House tours resume.

CHURCH VISITS BY COLLEGE PERSONNEL

Sunday, January 1

Dr. Calvin Mercer, professor of religion, will be at Christian Chapel Church, Lenoir County. At the 11 a.m. worship service he will "kick-off" the Sunday school workshop to be held at the church on January 2, 9 and 16. The Rev. Ed Miles is the pastor.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE VISITS SITE OF 1984 STATE CONVENTION

While on the Mount Olive College Campus for a business meeting, members of the North Carolina Executive Committee inspected the construction progress on College Hall where the 1984 State Convention is scheduled to meet. Shown with College President W. Burkette Raper, are (left to right): Gary M. Bailey of Goldsboro, president of the Convention; Steve Hargrove of Ayden; Ronnie Hobgood of La Grange, treasurer; and Scott Sowers of Farmville, secretary.

FREE WILL BAPTIST MINISTERS VISIT COLLEGE HALL

Shown above are approximately fifty persons who came to Mount Olive College on December 5, for "Ministers Preview Day" of College Hall. Following a tour of the facility, the ministers and their wives were guests of the College for lunch.

The program for the day also included a review of plans for the four-year program at Mount Olive College by Dean Opey Jeanes and Dr. Michael R. Pelt, chairman of the Department of Religion. Beginning with the junior year in 1984, the College will offer two degree programs for those who plan to enter the ministry and other church-related programs. The Bachelor of Arts degree will be for persons who plan to continue their education in seminary and the Bachelor of Science degree will be for those who plan for only a baccalaureate degree.

YOUR CHAIR FOR COLLEGE HALL IS ON THE WAY!

Summary: Through December 12

Needed	800 Chairs ($50 each)	$40,000
Gifts to Date	140 Chairs	7,000
Balance	660	$33,000

Contributions for 73 chairs in College Hall were received during the fourteen-day period ending December 12. These gifts brought to 140 the total sponsored to date.

Our goal is 800 chairs at a cost of $50 each.

These chairs will be used for the first time at the "Grand Opening" of College Hall on Saturday, January 7. The cost of chairs may be contributed by individuals, families, churches, Sunday school classes, auxiliaries, Laymen's Leagues, YFA, AFC and other church groups. Gifts may be in honor or in memory of persons chosen by the donors.

The Woman's Auxiliary of Saint Mary's Church, New Bern, came up with a good idea that other auxiliaries and churches might consider. Miss Marice DeBruhl, secretary of the Auxiliary, wrote: "It is a real pleasure to enclose a check from our Woman's Auxiliary for two seats in College Hall in honor of our pastor and his wife. In the two short years they have been with us, Marvin and Peggy have endeared themselves to our people and all it took was a simple suggestion for our ladies to honor them in this manner."

A list of donors and those honored or memorialized will be recognized in the lobby of College Hall.

140 CHAIRS THROUGH DECEMBER 12

Donors	Number of Chairs	Amount
Young Women's Circle of Stoney Creek Church, Goldsboro, NC	1	$ 50
Stancil's Chapel Church, Kenly, NC	4	200
The Rev. S. A. Smith, Beulaville, NC In Memory of Bertha S. Smith	1	50
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Thigpen, Beulaville, NC In Honor of the Rev. S. A. Smith	1	50
NC State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists	10	500
Mrs. Minnie H. Bullock, Greenville, NC In Memory of Jesse J. Bullock	2	100
Mr. Eugene James, Tarboro, NC In Memory of Will Tyson	1	50
Mr. Ralph Barnes, Lucama, NC	1	50
The Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Coats, Smithfield, NC	1	50
Mrs. Flonnie W. Creech, Princeton, NC In Memory of Phariba Johnson Westbrook In Memory of Martha Woodard Creech	2	100
Robert's Grove Church, Dunn, NC	6	300
Mrs. Edith H. McCoy, Cove City, NC In Honor of S. Woodrow McCoy	1	50
Mr. H. M. Hawkins, Cove City, NC In Honor of Nellie Hawkins	1	50
Saint Mary's Woman's Auxiliary, New Bern, NC In Honor of the Rev. Marvin Waters In Honor of Mrs. Peggy Waters	2	100
Friendship Church Sunday School, Walstonburg, NC	1	50
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby A. Johnson, Fayetteville, NC In Honor of Mrs. Mary Tew West	2	100
The Rev. and Mrs. William E. Stilley, New Bern, NC	1	50
Wooten's Chapel Woman's Auxiliary, Raleigh, NC	4	200
In Memory of Dallas Paul By Mrs. Verena L. Paul, Belhaven, NC	1	50
Piney Grove Sunday School Class Number 8, Greenville, NC	1	50

(Continued on Page 19)

Dear Friends,

A brief review of the past year reveals to me that you believe in the ministry of Cragmont. Because of your interest, we have had a record number in attendance. Because of your support, we have constructed a new ball field, renovated the motel, and have had the funds to make the main building payment since November 1; 1983 will be recorded as another great year for Cragmont.

At this time of year, our thoughts turn to Christmas. As Christians we are celebrating the coming of our Lord into our world. The Cragmont Board of Directors, Cragmont staff, camp directors and counselors strive each year to make this a place of retreat from the everyday world where our young people and adults can come to fellowship together and share in the love of our Lord. I would like to tell all our Cragmont friends of my appreciation to you for making such a place possible, and for your great support this year. May your heart be filled with the spirit of Christmas and may we all enjoy another bountiful year.

John Williams
Manager, Cragmont

Family Devotions

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

Scripture Reading—2 John; 3 John

THE UNSPEAKABLE GIFT

Long ago, there ruled in Persia a wise and good king. He loved his people. He wanted to know how they lived. He wanted to know about the hardships they suffered. Often he dressed in the clothes of a workingman or a beggar, and went to the homes of the poor. No one whom he visited thought that he was their ruler.

One time he visited a very poor man who lived in a cellar. He ate the coarse food the poor man ate. He spoke cheerful, kind words to him. Then he left. Later he visited the poor man again and disclosed his identity by saying, "I'm your king!" How surprised the poor man was! The king thought the man would surely ask for some gift or favor, but he didn't. Instead he said, "You left your palace and your glory to visit me in this dark, dreary place. You ate the coarse food I ate. You brought gladness to my heart! To others you have given your rich gifts. *To me you have given yourself!*"

The King of glory, the Lord Jesus, gave Himself to you and me! The Bible calls Him, "the unspeakable gift!"

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

Scripture Reading—Jude

A NEWBORN BABE
GIVES SIGHT TO OTHERS

An obstetrician approached an anxious father in a waiting room of a New York City hospital and said, "I am sorry to inform you, but your baby lived but two hours after its birth, though we did everything we could to save its life." As the sympathetic doctor was about to leave, the quick thinking father said, "I read only recently that human eyes are needed in corneal operations. Could my baby's eyes be used to enable someone to see again?" The next day the Red Cross carried an eye each to two different hospitals. In one, a corneal graft restored the sight of a working man with a large family. In the other, sight was given to a mother. A babe, who lived only two hours, gave physical sight to a grateful father and a mother.

Some 2,000 years ago a Babe came into our sin-darkened world to give spiritual sight to all who will receive it without money and without price.

At His coming, "the people that walked in darkness [saw] a great light."

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

Scripture Reading—Revelation 1-3

THE PAST IS FUTURE

Somewhere in South America there is an Indian tribe whose concept of the past and future seems to be exactly opposite that of ours. We refer to the past as being behind us, and the future ahead of us.

To this particular tribe, however, the past is thought of as being ahead of them, and the future as being behind them. At first this may seem very strange to us, and many will undoubtedly wonder how anyone could possibly be so foolish as to think in this manner.

The reasoning of these Indians, however, is quite logical. All that they have experienced—their mistakes, failures, lessons learned, etc.—is considered as being in front of them, and it is there for their contemplation and betterment. The future, on the other hand, is behind them because it has not yet been experienced.

May our past serve to make our future better and of more service.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Scripture Reading—Revelation 4-6

HIS UNFAILING PRESENCE

Another year I enter
Its history unknown;
Oh, how my feet would tremble
To tread its path alone!
But I have heard a whisper,
I know I shall be blest;
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest."

What will the New Year bring me?
I may not, must not know;
Will it be love and rapture,
Or loneliness and woe?
Hush! Hush! I hear His whisper;
I surely shall be blest;
"My presence shall go with thee,
And I will give thee rest."

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

Scripture Reading—Revelation 7-10

FORGET AND REMEMBER

Forget the word of slander heard;
Forget the harsh, the cruel word;
Forget the strife, the bitter test;
Forget it all, in Him find rest.
Forget the storms of yesteryear;
Forget the rocks, the days so drear;
Forget the clouds you must pass through;
Forget it all, He loveth you.
Forget the foe, the woundings had;
Forget the rain, the weather bad;
Forget the snow, the days so cold;
Forget it all as time grows old.

Remember this, His sovereign grace
Sufficient is for every place;
O'er every foe with Christ within,
We shall o'ercome, the vict'ry win.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

Scripture Reading—Revelation 11-16

THE BEST MEMORY SYSTEM

Forget the kindess that you do,
As soon as you have done it;
Forget the praise that falls on you,
The moment you have won it.
Forget the slander that you hear,
Before you can repeat it;
Forget each slight, each spite, each sneer,
Wherever you may meet it.

Remember every kindness done,
To you, whate'er its measure;
Remember praise by others won,
And pass it on with pleasure.
Remember every promise made,
And keep it to the letter;
Remember those who lend you aid,
And be a grateful debtor.

Remember all the happiness
That comes your way in living;
Forget each worry and distress,
Be hopeful and forgiving.
Remember good, remember truth,
Remember Heaven's above you,
And you will find through age and youth,
True joy and hearts to love you!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

Scripture Reading—Revelation 17-22

MY BOOK OF LIFE

I closed another chapter
In my book of life today,
And paused for meditation
As I laid the book away.

I thought of smudgy pages
Where the record was not clear,
And dreary lines of trouble
Clouded o'er by doubt and fear.

It's now too late to alter
Any script that's dried and set:
The story's far from perfect,
But it's vain to stew and fret.

I asked the Lord to pardon
The mistakes that mar the book,
And give me grace and courage
By a hopeful, Christ-ward look.

So now, there lies before me
A new chapter clean and white.
And I hope to write its pages
So the plot will turn out right.

I trust the final chapters
Will the Master's plan reveal,
And weave the many fragments
To depict a life that's real.

Portions from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

December Is Foreign Missions Month.

Sunday School Lesson

For December 25

A REIGN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Lesson Text: Isaiah 9:2-7; 11:1-3
Memory Verse: Isaiah 9:6

When angels announced the birth of Jesus, they praised God saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:14). Even today, after almost two millenia, those words are repeated every Christmas season, and there actually is a rebirth of goodwill in the hearts of many. We sing, "O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie," and we experience a tranquillity of soul, a peace within, forgetting for a moment headlines of violence and of other evil.

Some speak of this as "the magic of Christmas." I personally consider it as God's blessing upon those who will honor His Son. When one who is perplexed and anxious of heart looks to the Lord, he *can* experience peace. "Thou [LORD] wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee" (Isaiah 26:3). It is a blessing that, at this season, many may know, even if in a small degree, the peace that God makes possible through Christ.

But the angels sang of peace "on earth." Those who know Christ do experience inner peace, but is there peace on earth? Longfellow wrote, "Hate is strong and mocks the song." He was still convinced that "the wrong shall fail, the right prevail." But that has not happened in our lifetime. Cannot Christ, then, bring peace? Oh, yes, He can and He does. But He does not *impose* peace. Indeed, it is impossible to have an imposed peace, for such would not be peace at all, but oppression—such is the "peace" that exists in a totalitarian country. Christ makes possible the conditions under which peace may be realized. In a word, He does this by creating us anew. In doing this He rids us of our hatred and animosities and calls us to brotherhood and to right living.

Our lesson today is entitled "A Reign of Righteousness." This may appear to be a strange theme for a Christmas lesson. Yet it is most appropriate, for it is with righteousness—and not without righteousness—that peace on earth is possible. There can be no peace without righteousness. We may have the best educational facilities and techniques, the best legal system, the best economic structure and plan, the fullest technological know-how, but none of these nor all of them together can produce peace in the absence of righteousness.

Peace is never merely a political achievement. The foundation must be justice and righteousness, and this is what God provides for us through His Son Jesus Christ. It is absurd for men to think he can achieve peace while rejecting the means of peace that God furnishes.

Is the Christ of Christmas rejected? He need not be. As Phillips Brooks wrote, "Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in." And when Christ enters our lives, peace and righteousness are the result.

The Old Testament Scriptures are characterized by a forward look. There history is viewed as the gradual unfolding of God's divine purposes, a movement toward the eventual Kingdom of God. Included, is the record of the human soul in its responses to the Creator. Adoration? Yes, but finally sin, despair, and doom. Yet there is also the record of God's promise that the kingdom would come and that its blessings would be for all who would receive them.

The new order would be brought about by a wonderful King, of whom prophecies abound. He would be of the seed of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3), of the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10), and He would be born of a virgin and His name would be called Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14). There were many other prophecies. Two of the most significant comprise our lesson text.

In introducing the first, we should note that Isaiah had just written of the affliction of the "land of Zebulun, and the land of Naphtali . . . Galilee of the nations" (9:1). This area west and north of the Sea of Galilee had been overrun and ravaged by the Syrians in about 890 B.C. (1 Kings 15:20) and more recently by the Assyrians in 732 B.C. as a judgment of God (2 Kings 15:29). Gentile occupation and paganism plunged the area into spiritual darkness and gloom. This, however, was not to last forever. The time would come when the darkness that burdened the land would give way to glorious joy, a joy made possible by the Deliverer whom God would send to establish a kingdom of righteousness. Let us consider the promise.

A feeling of awe and wonder may accompany the birth of any child, yet the majority of births are not our concern. But when the child is born to us! Ah, there is the difference! That is the child we welcome and love and cherish. God so loved *the world* that He gave His Son. Surely, then, He is given to us. Yet He is truly ours only when He comes to reign in our hearts as the King of rightousness. This He will do when we open our hearts to receive Him. —*Standard Lesson Commentary*

AFTER CHRISTMAS

(Continued from Page 4)

home and share the wonderful acts of God (Mark 5:19). After a mountaintop experience, we are told to return home, and to testify quietly and effectively for our Saviour.

After the glitter and glamour of Christmas, we must return to normal living. Returning, thrilled and transformed as we are, we can tell others about Him who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

—Prairie Overcomer

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 13)

State, University of North Carolina, Duke)! The Auxiliary selected top-quality sweat jackets for each of the children, and were astoundingly accurate in selecting the children's college preferences!

Thank you, ladies, for a great time with our children and our youth. You've helped to make this Christmas one that will not be forgotten.

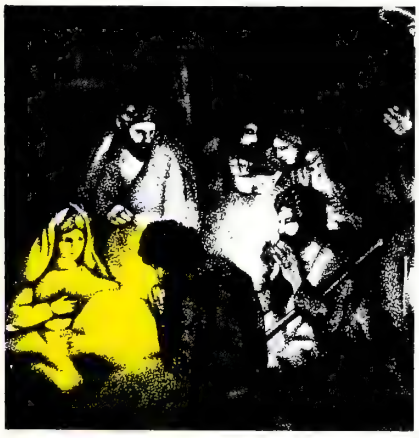
NEWS AND NOTES

Core Creek Church to Have Live Nativity Scene

The Core Creek Church, Cove City, will present a live nativity scene December 22, 23, from 7 to 9 p.m. The public is invited to attend the presentation.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Many of you may want to send Mrs. J. E. Timmons a card during this Christmas season. Her address is P.O. Box 2412, Laredo, Texas 78041.



MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 15)

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Hoggard By the Rev. and Mrs. Harold Jones, Greenville, NC	2	100
Mrs. Lethea G. Sawyer, Hillsborough, NC	1	50
In Memory of Mr. Bonner D. Sawyer By Mrs. Lethea G. Sawyer, Hillsborough, NC	1	50
In Memory of Bettie Whorton By Bethel Woman's Auxiliary, Merritt, NC	1	50
Free Union Woman's Auxiliary, Pinetown, NC	2	100
The Rev. and Mrs. Bobby R. Taylor, Middlesex, NC	1	50
In Honor of Woodrow and Edith McCoy By Mrs. Lillian H. Heath, Cove City, NC	1	50
In Memory of the Rev. Lloyd Vernon By Mrs. Lloyd Vernon, Mount Olive, NC	1	50
Mrs. Lloyd Vernon, Mount Olive, NC	1	50
Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie J. Wooten, Farmville, NC	2	100
In Memory of Roy Outlaw By Mrs. Nellie Outlaw, Dudley, NC	1	50
First Church of Durham, Durham, NC	6	300
Sound View Brotherhood, Newport, NC	1	50
Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Bailey, Newport, NC	1	50
Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Padgett, Newport, North NC	1	50
Mr. and Mrs. Alvis Heath, Newport, NC	1	50
Mr. and Mrs. Quinton Williams, Newport, NC	1	50
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Henderson, Newport, NC	1	50
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rhodes, Beulaville, NC	2	100
For Cabin Church By Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rhodes, Beulaville, NC	1	50
Totals (November 29 through December 12)	73	$3,650
Received through November 29	67	3,350
Received through December 12	140	$7,000

Chairs for College Hall

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church _____

Number of Chairs _____ at $50 each

Amount of Gift $ _____

Mail to: Gift Records Office
Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, NC 28365

Gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law.

(If gifts are made in honor or in memory of loved ones, please provide appropriate information.)

Hallelujah!

Once again we come to the celebration of Christmas. In its tender beauty, its cheer, its good will, we find rich blessing. Heaven and earth are very close together. We catch glimpses of the glory of that other world. We see its radiant light in the faces of dear familiar friends. We catch the echoes of its heavenly music in the cheery greetings of familiar voices. As we worship together in God's sanctuary, lost in the wonder, love and praise, we feel Him pouring into us a joy and a peace we would not exchange for all the treasures of the world. Ours is not only a "Merry Christmas"; ours is a blessed one.

And when the Christmas candles have flickered out and the lights and music of that other world have faded away, we are back again in the old familiar world, faced with the same tasks and responsibilities. We are faced with the same temptations, the same loneliness, the same old weariness. But we are not the same! For the Christmas blessing of greater God-consciousness. Immanuel—God with us—abides, making us better men and women. With this truth in our hearts we are reassured that love is stronger than hate; that this poor humanity of ours is touched with divinity; that ideals are worth striving for. We find new strength to carry on in this our world.

Wishing you a beautiful Christmas and a New Year of peace and happiness.

The Management and Personnel of the
Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

The Free Will Baptist

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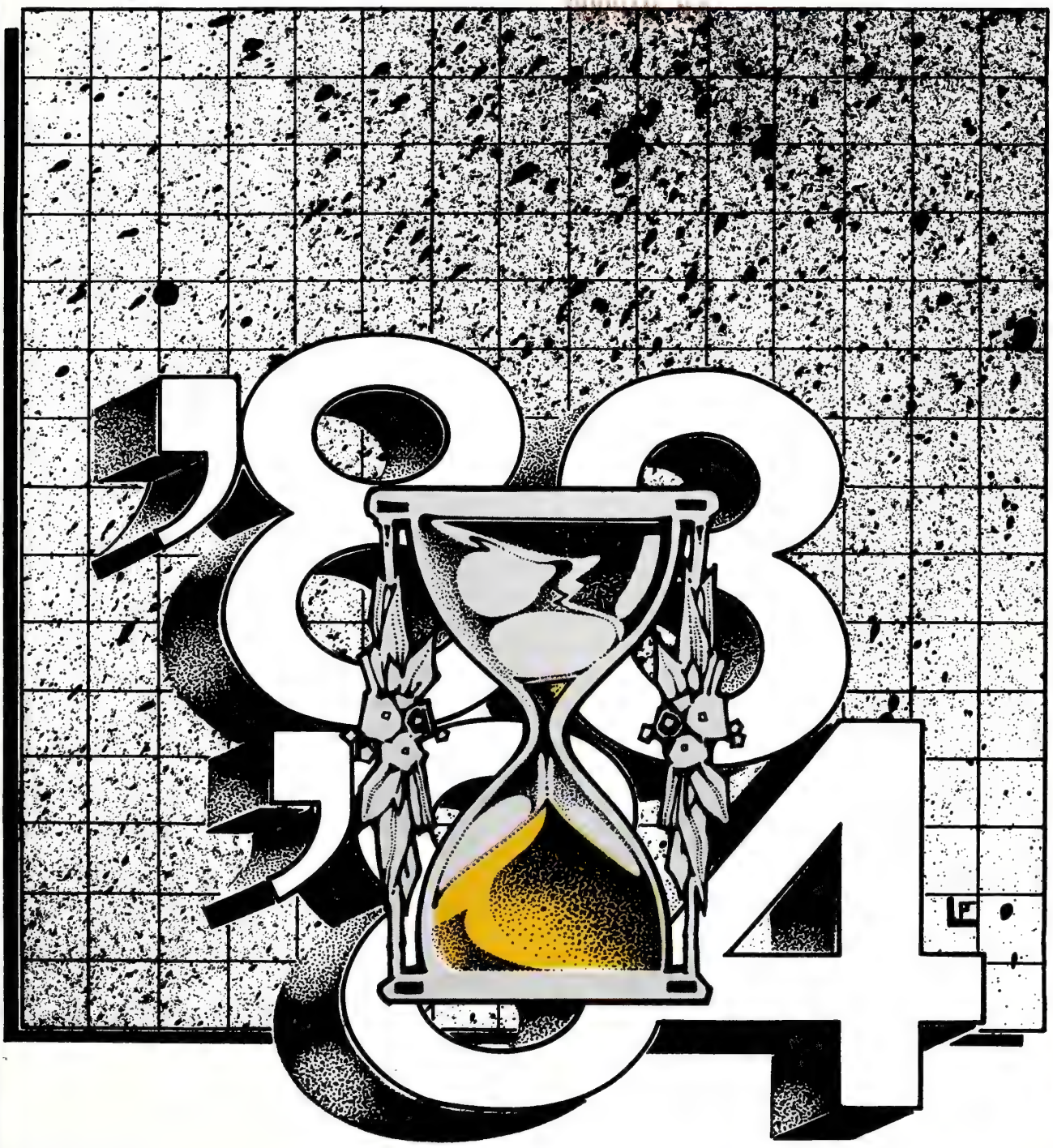

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1983, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

The Free Will Baptist

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Volume 98 Number 48

December 28, 1983

Janie Jones Sowers

Editor

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The purpose of this paper is to promote the cause of Christ among Original Free Will Baptists, and we reserve the right to refuse any article or news that is inconsistent with our purpose, programs, or policies, and that does not reflect a spirit of harmony and cooperation with the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158.

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Every-Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

Bookstore Hours: Ayden, Smithfield, and Whiteville, 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Editorial

Pedestals, Rungs, and Tragedies

It happens everywhere:

—A real estate agent calls his office to report the sale of a home on the edge of the country club district. When told that the person purchasing the home is a minister, the office staff is flabbergasted.

—A high school student late for a morning class, was reprimanded by his teacher: "Why are you late? After all, look who your father is!" Grinning, the pastor's son replied, "I'm sorry, but he is late sometimes, too!"

—An independently wealthy young man dedicated his life to the gospel ministry. After being ordained, he pastored several fine churches. Most of his congregations, though, were uncomfortable about his financial independence—they had no problems with his ministry, just his money. Today he has stepped out of the ministry because he was tired of the "gaff."

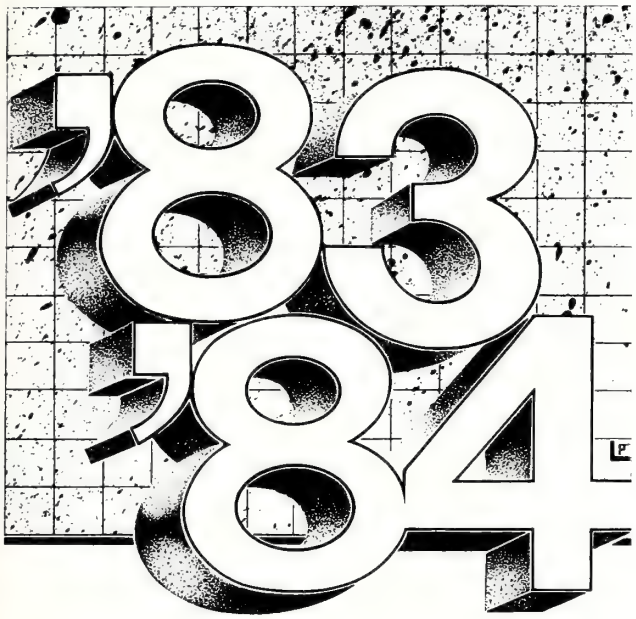
—Then there was the lady who heard her minister and his wife were adopting a child. Her response: "Now, **that's** the way I like to think of my pastor!"

All of this says an awful lot: Lay people and clergy have both been rendered less effective because of the role the pastor and layman—like actors—were supposed to play. Often the minister is placed on a pedestal—sometimes by himself, sometimes by others. Pedestal-placing is usually done by individuals who think ministers are supposed to live the way they think they should. And there is a subconscious—often neurotic—need to feel that somebody in town has it all together, especially if we don't feel as though we do.

There are two tragedies that result from the pedestal complex. First, there is the establishment of a double standard. Some people feel ministers should live one way, while they can do as they please. I guess they feel God is "going to write their lack of commitment off as ignorance." It is also felt that some things in life are not acceptable for ministers: the accumulation of "wealth," being successful, displaying anger, and talking—not so nicely—about other Christians. Now I must ask: If these "things" are okay for lay people, why are they "no-no's" for ministers? (Then again, ministers are usually harder on other ministers than they are on those outside their "ranks." Usually this boils down to one of two things: jealousy **or** the fear of the loss of one's "power.")

The second tragedy scares me. Pedestal-sitting often causes ministers to see laymen as being ignorant and incompetent. This is evidenced when ministers challenge people to become involved in the work of the ministry but fail to train them when they express interest. It is seen when ministers talk derogatorily about those laymen who are willing to involve themselves in some field of ministry. This attitude sometimes surfaces in conversations; and few things can hurt the cause of Christ more than the division and feelings of unworth that result.

I will be examining this occurrence for the next several weeks. As the new year approaches, let us consider the role we each play in the work of the ministry. Let us prayerfully examine our lives and act as God would have us to act.



SEVEN M'S FOR 1984

by Ted W. Engstrom

As we approach a new year I am thinking of seven important M's.

Our Mission. We simply must continually relate ourselves to the words of our Lord in Matthew 28:19, 20, and Colossians 2:6, 7. An estimated 7 to 7.5 billion people will inhabit our explosive world at the turn of the century—just 16 years from now. What kind of world will we be giving to them? We must spread the gospel, but we dare not have a messianic complex that fosters the feeling that we must be bigger and better than everyone else. We must cooperate with and complement the church and other organizations which, with us, are vitally concerned about the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Our mandate. We must repeatedly review the original mandate of our Lord to both preach (evangelize) and teach (train). In fulfilling our mandate we cannot divorce evangelistic fervor from spiritual nurturing.

Our motivation. Our ministry of motivation must be characterized by a spiritual boldness. The Apostle Paul reminds us of a threefold motivational truth when he says, "I am debtor, I am ready and I am not ashamed" (Romans 1:14-16). We must continually recognize that Christian revelation owes nothing to human wisdom but to God's power only (1 Corinthians 2:1-5).

Our manpower. God has always chosen to work through human instrumentality; we must always seek to mobilize the task force of men and women who, having experienced personal salvation through Jesus Christ and a life which brings glory to Him, seek to devote their lives and talents to the outreach of evangelism. In 2 Corinthians 2:14-17, and 4:1-11, guidelines are provided for leadership that stand above culture.

Our means. 2 Corinthians 9:1-13 gives us some help from the apostle on finances. It is a strong reminder to all of us that we cannot separate the means from the message. God has blessed many American Christians financially so magnificently, and we dare not forget to support Christian causes.

Our methods. A change in method does not require a change in message. Paul again provides a model for us when he says, "I am all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (1 Corinthians 9:22). This principle of flexibility was exhibited by Jesus when He taught through parables, demonstration and example. He ministered to individuals, to small groups, at a banquet for 5000, and to the poor as well as the elite.

Our message. Acts 20:26, 27, says, "Wherefore I take you to record this day that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." This must be the foundation stone upon which our ministries are based. We are committed to the presentation of an unchanging gospel based upon the authority of the Word of God. I believe we must further continually affirm the belief that the local church is God's ordained instrument ratifying the believers and the propagation of the gospel.

Used by permission *World Vision* (December, 1983).

PRE-CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE

The "Wonder of Christmas" nestled into the atmosphere of the Children's Home on Wednesday night, December 14, as we experienced the highlight of our Christmas season, our annual community Christmas Service. We began the evening with a quiet "Parker's Barbecue" meal in the Central Kitchen, enjoying warm fellowship with our children, staff and visiting pastors and other friends. There was a total of about sixty at the dinner.

Shortly after the meal, everyone moved over to Memorial Chapel to share in the service. As the time approached to begin, other people started coming into the church . . . then more people . . . then more! By 7:30 p.m., the church was FILLED on both sides, probably numbering above two hundred, with joy unspeakable and full of glory! What a blessing it was to see Memorial Chapel again pulsating with the spirits of believers, sharing in the joys of celebrating the birth of our Lord. (Perhaps God is trying to tell us something!)

The service began with a warm welcome by our Executive Director, Bobby R. Taylor. He expressed his appreciation to the community churches for their participation in the service. Immediately after the welcome, a parade of children marched down the center aisle, candles in hand, and blessed our hearts with a choral rendering of "Silent Night." The rest of the evening chimed with congregational singing and special music by groups and individuals from the Children's Home and from the community. The pastor of Stony Hill Church, the Rev. Billy Toler, presented Scripture reading and the pastor of Friendship Church, the Rev. Paul Grubbs, shared the reading of the birth of Christ. After the conclusion of the service gifts were presented to our children, provided by Interstate Tire Company of Wilson, North Carolina, and Barnes Hill Church. We only wish everyone could have experienced what we did by being present on that joyous Wednesday evening.

THINGS ARE HAPPENING!

Things are happening at the Children's Home! January promises to be the beginning of an exciting period of new PLANS, PROGRAMS, AND PROGRESS. The New Year stimulates everyone to "rethink" what has been going on and "think" of what can be done to improve past programs and progress. This is called, in quite simple terms, "EVALUATION!" And this is exactly what is happening at YOUR Children's Home.

We are planning new developments in our "recreation program." We are praying about and planning for a renewed emphasis in the spiritual life of our Children's Home residents. We are researching possibly more effective ways to be accessible to agencies that are qualified referral sources, for meeting the needs of even more children. In addition to all this, and more, we are seeking to discover new and better ways to keep YOU, our people, informed of plans, programs, and progress of the Children's Home. So, keep watching—you may be surprised at what you see!

CENTRAL CONFERENCE ORDAINING COUNCIL TO MEET

The Ordaining Council of the Central Conference will meet at 10 a.m. on January 9, 1984, at First Church, Greenville. Anyone wishing to meet with the Council, should call the Rev. Harry Grubbs at 756-8585, or 756-6600 for an appointment.

Harry Grubbs

REGISTER NOW FOR THE MINI-MUSIC FESTIVAL!

See Page 24 for More Details

Church _____

Church Address _____

Church Phone No. _____ Name and Phone No. of Contact Person _____

No. Being Registered _____ Amount of Check _____

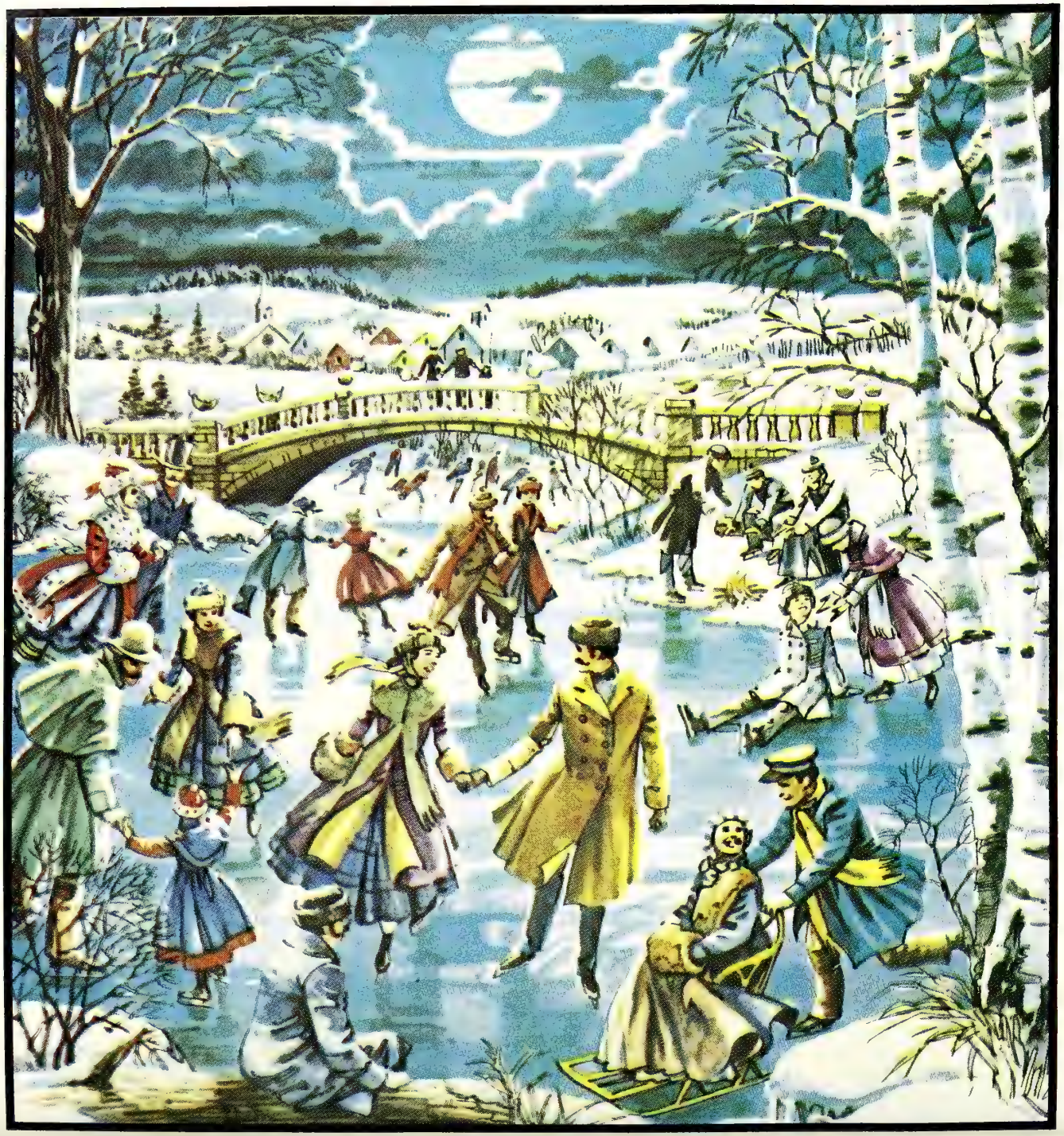
Please list the names and positions of each person being registered.

Name _____ Position _____

Name _____ Position _____

Name _____ Position _____

The Free Will Baptist 1984



The Free Will Baptist

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

JANUARY IS RETIREMENT HOMES MONTH.

"The best is yet to be—"indeed. Growing older does not rob us of the abundant life that our Lord promised us. God promised Job, "Thine age shall be clearer than the noonday; thou shalt shine forth, thou shalt be as the morning." The morning holds the promise of a new day. A time of opportunity and fulfillment.

The Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes offer comfortable, convenient and economical housing for Free Will Baptist laypersons and ministers to experience the best that is yet to come. Free of the worry of the high cost of housing and utilities the retired Christian can give his or her energies to fulfilling that long cherished dream whether it be involving themselves in community service or simply idling away the hours among the flowers or at the end of a fishing pole.

For more information write to the following address: Retirement Homes, Box 250, Middlesex, NC 27557; or call (919) 235-2161.

FEBRUARY IS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MONTH; and the greatest assets of Mount Olive College, are not in its tangible properties but in the quality of its educational program, the integrity of its Christian commitment, the loyalty of its alumni, the hope and inspiration it gives Original Free Will Baptists, the loyalty of its friends and the dedication of its personnel.

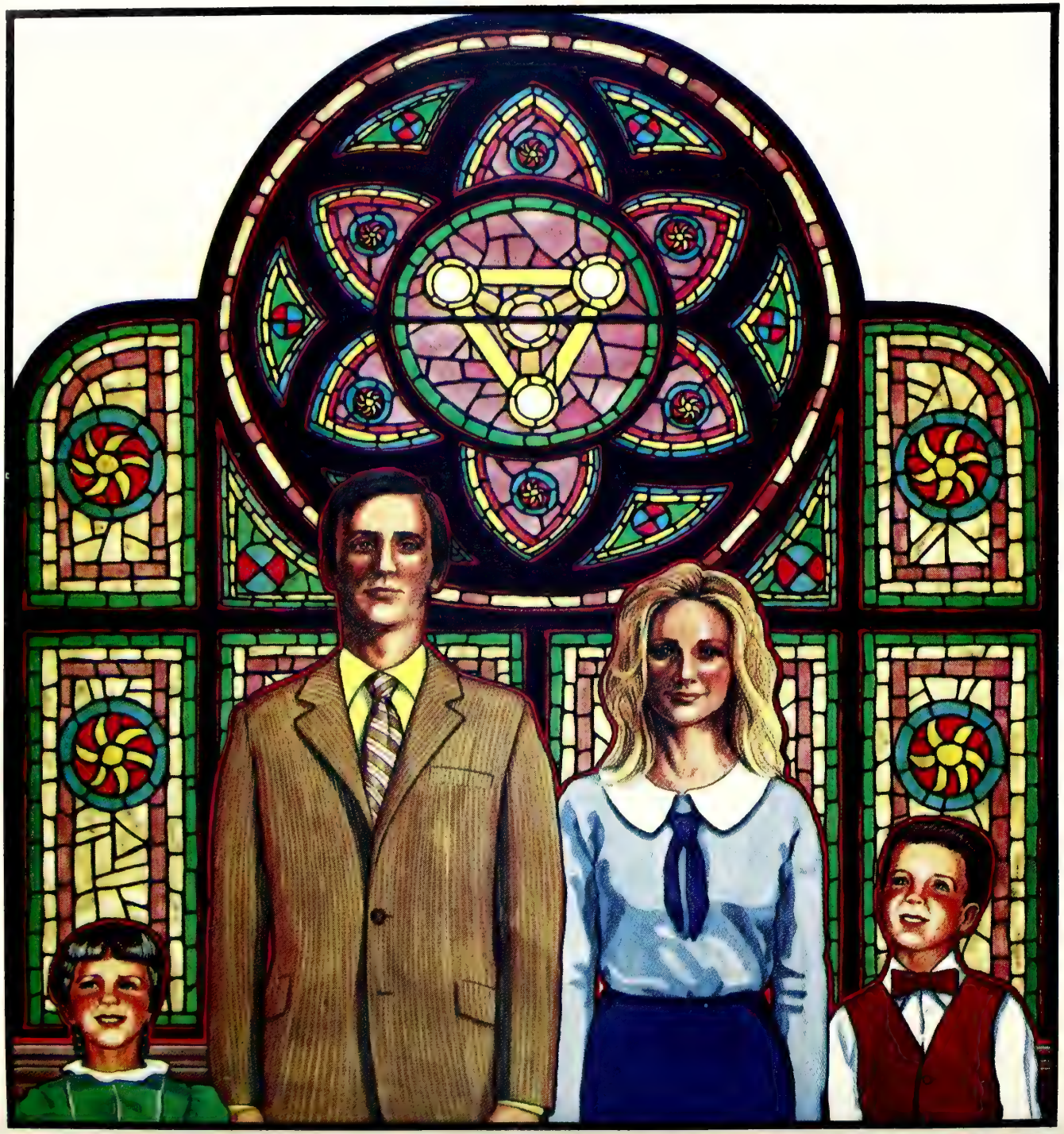
For more information about the College write to the following address: Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365; or call (919) 658-2502.

JANUARY 1984

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Genesis 1-3	2 Genesis 4-6	3 Genesis 7-9	4 Genesis 10-12	5 Genesis 13-15	6 Genesis 16-18	7 Genesis 19-21
8 Genesis 22-24	9 Genesis 25-27	10 Genesis 28-30	11 Genesis 31-33	12 Genesis 34-36	13 Genesis 37-39	14 Genesis 40-42
15 Genesis 43-45	16 Genesis 46-48	17 Gen 49-Exo. 1	18 Exodus 2-4	19 Exodus 5-7	20 Exodus 8-10	21 Exodus 11-13
22 Exodus 14-16	23 Exodus 17-19	24 Exodus 20-22	25 Exodus 23-25	26 Exodus 26-28	27 Exodus 29-31	28 Exodus 32-34
29 Exodus 35-37	30 Exodus 38-39	31 Exodus 40				

FEBRUARY 1984

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1 Leviticus 1-3	2 Leviticus 4-6	3 Leviticus 7-8	4 Leviticus 9-10
5 Leviticus 11-13	6 Leviticus 14-15	7 Leviticus 16-18	8 Leviticus 19-21	9 Leviticus 22-23	10 Leviticus 24-25	11 Leviticus 26-27
12 Numbers 1-2	13 Numbers 3-4	14 Numbers 5-6	15 Numbers 7	16 Numbers 8-9	17 Numbers 10-11	18 Numbers 12-13
19 Numbers 14-15	20 Numbers 16-18	21 Numbers 19-20	22 Numbers 21-22	23 Numbers 23-25	24 Numbers 26-27	25 Numbers 28-29
26 Numbers 30-31	27 Numbers 32-33	28 Numbers 34-35	29 Numbers 36			



The Free Will Baptist

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth (Acts 1:8).

MARCH IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH. Foreign Missions is the church at work reaching people outside the United States with the gospel of Jesus Christ. The job is tremendous, for 94% of the world's population lives in 209 countries beyond our borders. We are working in only three of these countries, India, Mexico, and the Philippines. The work in these three countries could best be described as "beach-heads." In India, for example, only four-tenths of one percent of the population of nearly eight-hundred million is evangelical Christian. In order to make a great impact in these and other countries of our world, we must do more than we have ever done before.

For information on how **you** can help write to the Board of Foreign Missions, Box 38, Ayden, NC 28513-0038; or call (919) 746-4963.

APRIL IS HOME MISSIONS MONTH.

"Home Missions is the key to growth" (Charles Crisp).

North Carolina has almost six million people and only 45% profess faith in Christ. Since 55% do not confess faith in Christ, there are over 3 million people in North Carolina who are unchurched. Most of these people will not join an existing congregation near their home because of some economic, ethnic, or social reason. They need new congregations or sub-congregations.

For more information write to the following address: Board of Home Missions, Box 38, Ayden, NC 28513-0038; or call (919) 746-4963.

MARCH 1984

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1 Deut. 1-2	2 Deut. 3-4	3 Deut. 5-7
4 Deut 8-10	5 Deut. 11-13	6 Deut. 14-16	7 Deut. 17-20	8 Deut. 21-23	9 Deut. 24-27	10 Deut. 28
11 Deut. 29-31	12 Deut. 32-34	13 Joshua 1-3	14 Joshua 4-6	15 Joshua 7-8	16 Joshua 9-10	17 Joshua 11-13
18 Joshua 14-16	19 Joshua 17-19	20 Joshua 20-21	21 Joshua 22-24	22 Judges 1-2	23 Judges 3-5	24 Judges 6-7
25 Judges 8-9	26 Judges 10-11	27 Judges 12-14	28 Judges 15-17	29 Judges 18-19	30 Judges 20-21	31 Ruth 1-4

APRIL 1984

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 I Samuel 1-3	2 I Samuel 4-7	3 I Samuel 8-11	4 I Sam. 12-14.23	5 I Sam. 14.24-16	6 I Samuel 17-18	7 I Samuel 19-21
8 I Samuel 22-24	9 I Samuel 25-27	10 I Samuel 28-31	11 II Samuel 1-2	12 II Samuel 3-5	13 II Samuel 6-9	14 II Samuel 10-12
15 II Samuel 13-14	16 II Samuel 15-16	7 II Samuel 17-18	18 II Samuel 19-20	19 II Samuel 21-22	20 II Samuel 23-24	21 I Kings 1-2:25
22 I Kings 2:26—4	23 I Kings 5-7	24 I Kings 8	25 I Kings 9-11	26 I Kings 12-13	27 I Kings 14-15	28 I Kings 16-18
29 I Kings 19-20	30 I Kings 21-22					

The Free Will Baptist

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help (Psalm 121:1).

MAY IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH.

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home was founded by the Free Will Baptist Church for the purpose of performing the Great Commission by ministering to children. This ministry provides for the physical, educational and social needs of children. As most children come to us from broken homes where they were abused, neglected or abandoned, their faith and confidence in themselves and their world has been shattered. This Home strives to restore the child's faith in himself and in others. We work with the children and their families toward the goal of reuniting the family when possible, and when this is not possible we try to help the children and their families learn to cope with the probblems they have that cannot be changed.

For more information about this ministry, write to the following address: Children's Home, Box 249, Middlesex, NC 27557; or call (919) 235-2161.

JUNE IS CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY MONTH.

We want to make Cragmont accessible to all the people of our denomination. The only way we can do this is for our churches to support us with their contributions. If your church is not helping us financially, please consider it so that our youth can continue to come to Cragmont for a week of great spiritual renewal and good Christian fun. Will you, as individuals, also pray that Cragmont may continue its home mission effort of winning youth over to the cause of Christ?

For more information, write Cragmont Assembly, 1233 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711; phone, (704) 669-7677.

MAY 1984

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 II Kings 1-3	2 II Kings 4-5	3 II Kings 6-8	4 II Kings 9-10	5 II Kings 11-13
6 II Kings 14-15	7 II Kings 16-17	8 II Kings 18-20	9 II Kings 21-23.20	10 II Kings 23:21-25	11 I Chron. 1-2	12 I Chron. 3-5
13 I Chron. 6-7	14 I Chron 8-10	15 I Chron. 11-13	16 I Chron. 14-16	17 I Chron. 17-20	18 I Chron. 21-23	19 I Chron. 24-26
20 I Chron 27-29	21 II Chron. 1-3	22 II Chron. 4-6	23 II Chron. 7-9	24 II Chron 10-13	25 II Chron. 14-17	26 II Chron. 18-20
27 II Chron. 21-24	28 II Chron. 25-27	29 II Chron 28-30	30 II Chron 31-33	31 II Chron. 34-36		

JUNE 1984

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1 Ezra 1-2	2 Ezra 3-5
3 Ezra 6-7	4 Ezra 8-9	5 Ezra 10	6 Neh. 1-3	7 Neh 4-6	8 Neh. 7-8	9 Neh 9-10
10 Neh 11-12	11 Neh. 13	12 Esther 1-3	13 Esther 4-7	14 Esther 8-10	15 Job 1-4	16 Job 5-8
17 Job 9-12	18 Job 13-16	19 Job 17-20	20 Job 21-24	21 Job 25-29	22 Job 30-33	23 Job 34-37
24 Job 38-40	25 Job 41-42	26 Psalms 1-9	27 Psalms 10-17	28 Psalms 18-22	29 Psalms 23-30	30 Psalms 31-35

The Free Will Baptist

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:14).

JULY IS CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MONTH.

The future of Original Free Will Baptists and Mount Olive College are inseparable. The years ahead will be what we have the wisdom, faith, and commitment to make them. God has given us our children and adequate resources to do His work; the rest is up to us.

Once before—in 1931—we failed in our educational endeavor, and for a full generation we were without a college, that was true to our faith and loyal to our Church. In 1951, when we dared to begin again, it was almost too late. The Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina are like "a brand plucked from the burning," but God has given us a remnant. This time we dare not fail, for to do so would be to sacrifice any opportunity to ever succeed again.

Let us, therefore, with this awareness of history and this sense of destiny go forward in the sure faith that God has a purpose for our lives and a mission for our Church.

Mount Olive College is part of that mission. For more information, write: Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365; or phone (919) 658-2502.

AUGUST IS STATE CONVENTION PROMOTION MONTH.

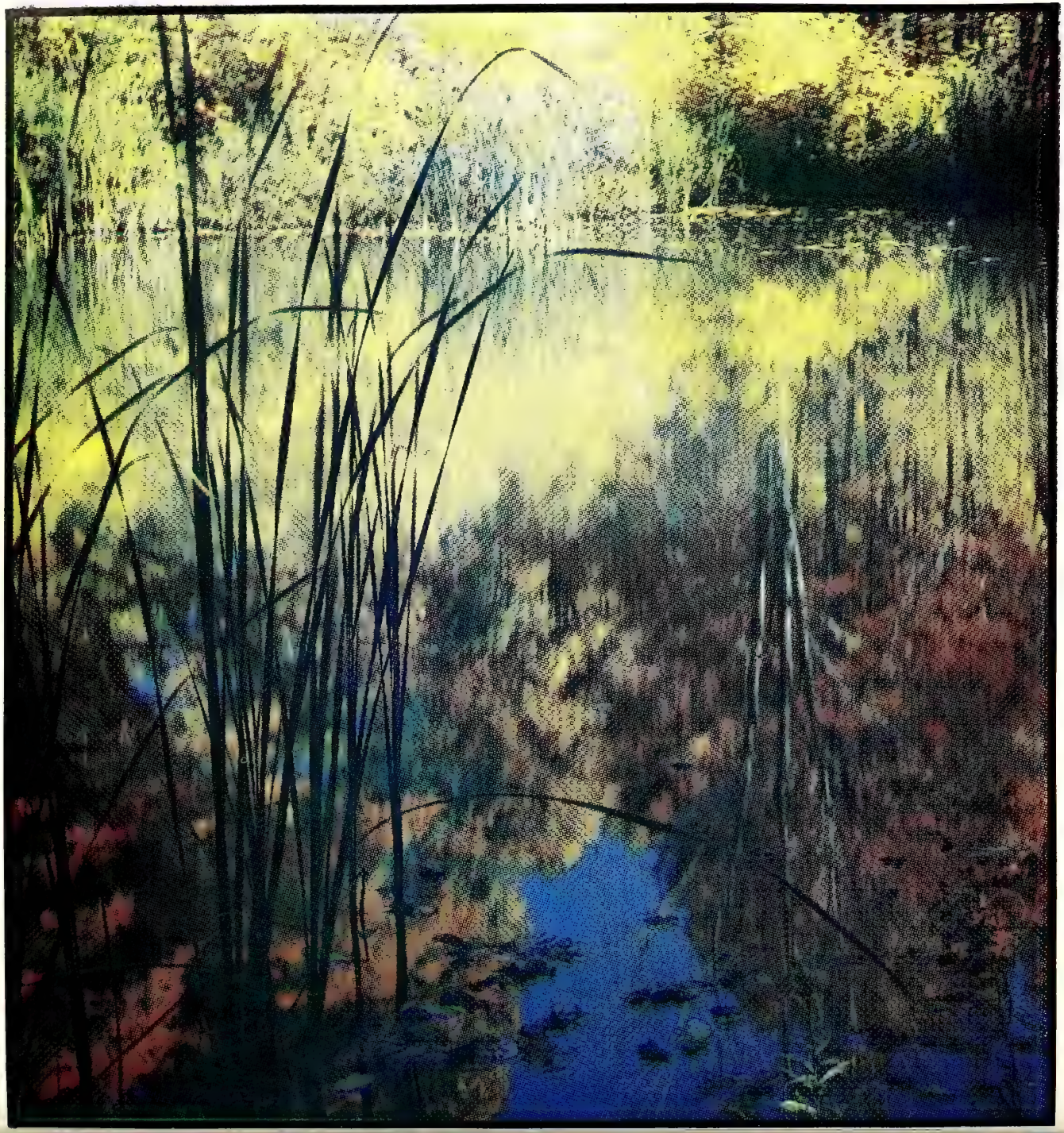
The following presently serve on the Executive Committee of the State Convention: The Rev. Gary M. Bailey, president; the Rev. William Jackie Godwin, vice president; the Rev. William Scott Sowers, recording secretary; the Rev. Steve Hargrove, assistant recording secretary; the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, treasurer; the Rev. Roy Clifton and Mrs. Dola Dudley, members-at-large.

JULY 1984

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 Psalms 36-39	2 Psalms 40-45	3 Psalms 46-51	4 Psalms 52-59	5 Psalms 60-66	6 Psalms 67-71	7 Psalms 72-77
8 Psalms 78-80	9 Psalms 81-87	10 Psalms 88-91	11 Psalms 92-100	12 Psalms 101-105	13 Psalms 106-107	14 Psalms 108-118
15 Psalm 119	16 Psalms 120-131	17 Psalms 132-138	18 Psalms 139-143	19 Psalms 144-150	20 Proverbs 1-3	21 Proverbs 4-7
22 Proverbs 8-11	23 Proverbs 12-15	24 Proverbs 16-19	25 Proverbs 20-22	26 Proverbs 23-26	27 Proverbs 27-31	28 Eccles. 1-4
29 Eccles 5-8	30 Eccles 9-12	31 Song of Sol. 1-8				

AUGUST 1984

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1 Isaiah 1-4	2 Isaiah 5-9	3 Isaiah 10-14	4 Isaiah 15-21
5 Isaiah 22-26	6 Isaiah 27-31	7 Isaiah 32-37	8 Isaiah 38-42	9 Isaiah 43-46	10 Isaiah 47-51	11 Isaiah 52-57
12 Isaiah 58-63	13 Isaiah 64-66	14 Jer 1-3	15 Jer 4-6	16 Jer 7-10	17 Jer. 11-14	18 Jer. 15-18
19 Jer 19-22	20 Jer 23-25	21 Jer 26-28	22 Jer 29-31	23 Jer 32-33	24 Jer 34-36	25 Jer. 37-40
26 Jer 41-44	27 Jer 45-48	28 Jer 49-50	29 Jer 51-52	30 Lam 1-2	31 Lam 3-5	



The Free Will Baptist

Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not (Galatians 6:9).

SEPTEMBER IS HOME MISSIONS MONTH.

Birth and growth are the rhythm of life just as are living and dying. People move away, communities change, churches grow old and die. We must continually be planting new churches.

Every church ought to say to itself, "We owe our birth to somebody else, are we going to be a dead-end link?" Does the process of church planting end with us, or are we going to confer on some other community, some other group of people the privilege of having a church? The opportunity may not be to plant a church on the next block, but you won't have to go far to find a great opportunity to extend the chain.

For information on how you can help, contact the Board of Home Missions, Box 38, Ayden, NC 28513-0038; phone, (919) 746-4963.

OCTOBER IS SUPERANNUATION MONTH.

The Board of Superannuation has designed and implemented many programs over the years for the benefit of both ministers and members of the Original Free Will Baptist churches in North Carolina. These programs have included the Ministers' Retirement System, life insurance, Ministers' Widows Fund and health insurance.

The Board of Directors maintains close scrutiny over each program and as changes occur, the programs are modified and refined to keep them current in a changing environment. We do not expect participation in any program simply because it is a Free Will Baptist program, that alone is not reason enough. It must be a good program and meet the needs of our people.

For more information write to the Board of Superannuation, Box 38, Ayden, NC 28513-0038.

SEPTEMBER 1984

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1 Ezek. 1-4
2 Ezek. 5-9	3 Ezek. 10-13	4 Ezek. 14-16	5 Ezek. 17-19	6 Ezek. 20-21	7 Ezek. 22-24	8 Ezek. 25-28
9 Ezek. 29-32	10 Ezek. 33-36	11 Ezek. 37-39	12 Ezek. 40-42	13 Ezek. 43-45	14 Ezek. 46-48	15 Daniel 1-3
16 Daniel 4-6	17 Daniel 7-9	18 Daniel 10-12	19 Hosea 1-6	20 Hosea 7-14	21 Joel 1-3	22 Amos 1-5
Amos 6-9 Oba 1 23 / 30 Malachi 1-4	24 Jonah 1-4	25 Micah 1-7	26 Nah.1-3;Hab 1-3	27 Zeph.1-3;Hag.1-2	28 Zech. 1-7	29 Zech 8-14

OCTOBER 1984

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1 Matthew 1-4	2 Matthew 5-6	3 Matthew 7-9	4 Matthew 10-11	5 Matthew 12	6 Matthew 13-14
7 Matthew 15-17	8 Matthew 18-20	9 Matthew 21-22	10 Matthew 23-24	11 Matthew 25-26	12 Matthew 27-28	13 Mark 1-3
14 Mark 4-5	15 Mark 6-7	16 Mark 8-9	17 Mark 10-11	18 Mark 12-13	19 Mark 14-16	20 Luke 1
21 Luke 2-3	22 Luke 4-5	23 Luke 6-7	24 Luke 8-9	25 Luke 10-11	26 Luke 12-13	27 Luke 14-16
28 Luke 17-18	29 Luke 19-20	30 Luke 21-22	31 Luke 23-24			

The Free Will Baptist

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16).

NOVEMBER IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH.

While the Free Will Baptist Children's Home ministers to children and their families, it does everything in its power to introduce them to our Lord and Saviour. We strive to teach Christianity through religious training and by daily example. The Home is funded by Free Will Baptists. Since 1920 the Free Will Baptist people have unselfishly offered quality care to children. Through this ministry many children have been fed and clothed, many families have been re-united and many persons have been led to Christ. To this end, serving Christ through helpless children, the Free Will Baptist Children's Home rededicates itself with the continual help and guidance of our Lord and Saviour.

For more information, write: Children's Home, Box 249, Middlesex, NC 27557; or call (919) 235-2161.

DECEMBER IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH.

The number one responsibility of the church is to reach the lost with the gospel. **The Field is the World, or the World is the Field.** We must broaden our vision, for a people without a vision perish. It must not be a selfish vision that sees our needs only, but we must see the needs of the world and do all we can to meet those needs. Remembering that the greatest need of every person is to know Jesus Christ.

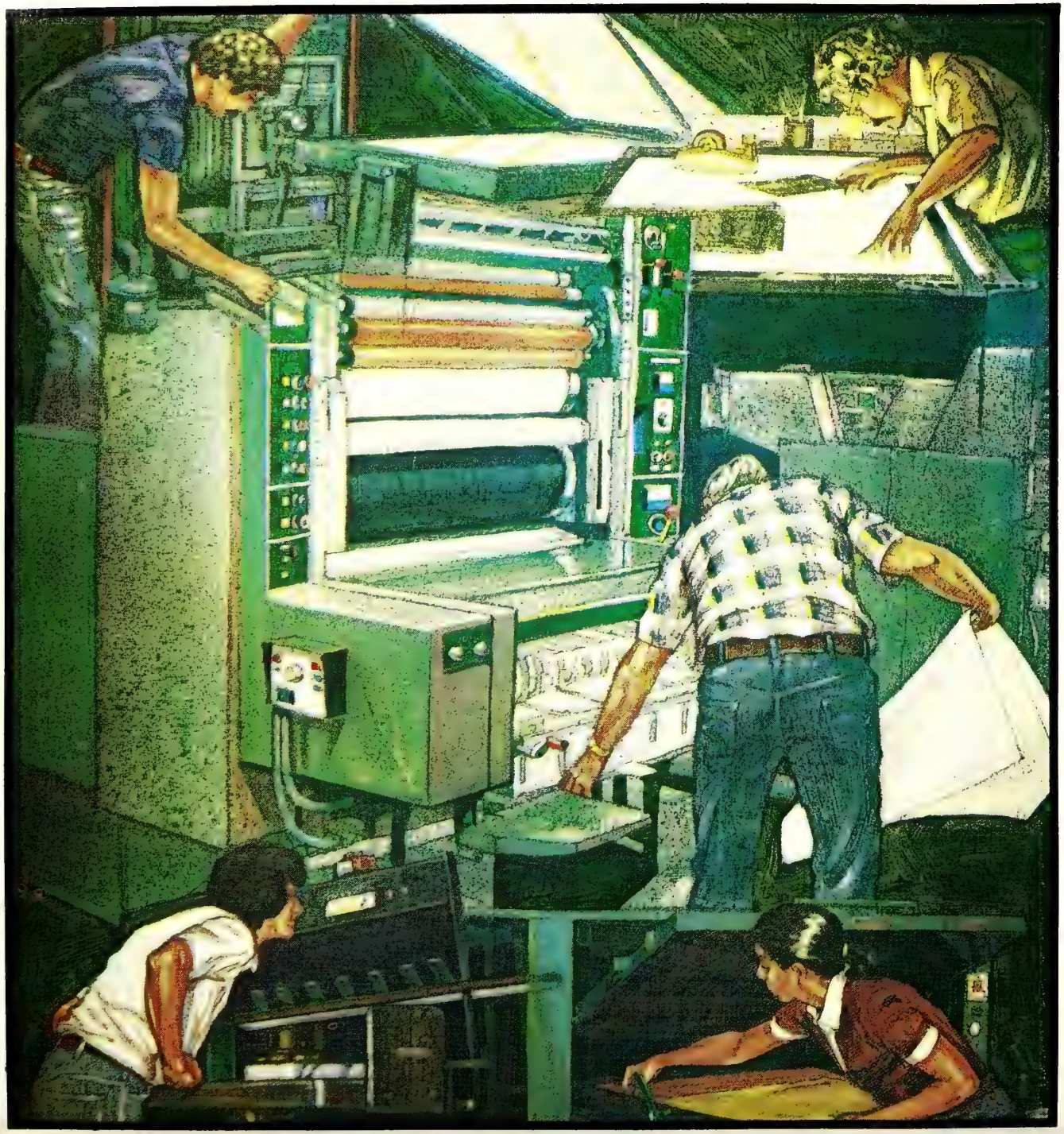
For more information on how **you** can help, write to the Board of Foreign Missions, Box 38, Ayden, NC 28513-0038; or call (919) 746-4963.

NOVEMBER 1984

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1 John 1-3	2 John 4-5	3 John 6-8
4 John 9-10	5 John 11-12	6 John 13-16	7 John 17-18	8 John 19-21	9 Acts 1-3	10 Acts 4-6
11 Acts 7-8	12 Acts 9-10	13 Acts 11-13	14 Acts 14-16	15 Acts 17-19	16 Acts 20-22	17 Acts 23-25
18 Acts 26-28	19 Romans 1-3	20 Romans 4-7	21 Romans 8-10	22 Romans 11-13	23 Romans 14-16	24 I Cor. 1-4
25 I Cor. 5-9	26 I Cor. 10-13	27 I Cor. 14-16	28 II Cor. 1-4	29 II Cor. 5-8	30 II Cor. 9-13	

DECEMBER 1984

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1 Galatians 1-3
2 Galatians 4-6	3 Ephesians 1-3	4 Ephesians 4-6	5 Philippians 1-4	6 Colossians 1-4	7 I Thess. 1-5	8 II Thess. 1-3
9 I Timothy 1-6	10 II Timothy 1-4	11 Tit. 1-3; Phil. 1	12 Hebrews 1-4	13 Hebrews 5-7	14 Hebrews 8-10	15 Hebrews 11-13
16 James 1-5	17 I Peter 1-2	18 I Peter 3-5	19 II Peter 1-3	20 I John 1-3	21 I John 4-5	22 II-III John; Jude
Rev. 1-2 23 / 30 Rev. 19-20	Rev. 3-5 24 / 31 Rev. 21-22	25 Rev. 6-8	26 Rev. 9-11	27 Rev. 12-13	28 Rev. 14-16	29 Rev. 17-18



Carefully remove Pages 1-4, 21-24, and you will have a 1984 devotional calendar. Use it with our best wishes.

Janie Jones Sowers, *Editor*

The Free Will Baptist

January is Retirement Homes Month

1 New Year's Day

2 Free Will Baptist Press and Bookstores Closed

6 Epiphany

-Layman's League Executive Committee

7 State Youth Committee Meets 9:30 A.M.

-Grand Opening of College Hall, 12:30, P.M. Mount Olive College

-Cape Fear Youth Convention 7:30 P.M.

9 Central Ordaining Council 10:00 A.M., Greenville, First Church

-Eastern Ordaining Council 10:00 A.M.,

-Spring Semester Begins Mount Olive College

10 Pee Dee Youth Convention 7:30 P.M.

11 Western Conference Ordaining Council 10:00 A.M., Unity Church

19 Board of Superannuation Meets 2:00 P.M., Headquarters

21 Central Youth Convention 7:30 P.M., Hickory Grove Church

22 Retirement Homes Day

23 Cape Fear Ordaining Council 1:30 P.M.

-Central Conference Ministers' Fellowship, 11:00 A.M.

-Cape Fear Ministers' Fellowship, Smithfield Bible and Bookstore

24 Free Will Baptist Press Board of Directors Meeting, 1:00 P.M.

28 Piedmont Conference Quarterly Conference and Ordaining Council Meeting

-Western Youth Convention 7:30 P.M., Marsh Swamp Church

29 Mount Olive College Scholarship Day

February Is Christian Education Month

1 Church Finance Board of Directors Meets 10:30 A.M.
4 Cape Fear Youth Convention 7:30 P.M.
7 Cragmont Board of Directors 10:00 A.M., Headquarters
7-9 Home Missions Pastors Retreat, Norman Park, Ga.
14 Foreign Missions Board 10:00 A.M., Mount Olive College
–Annual Membership Meeting of Church Finance Association, 10:30 A.M. at First Church, Wilson
16 Children's Home Board, 10:00 A.M. at the Home
17 North Carolina Ministerial Association Mid-Year Spiritual Life Banquet at Mount Olive College
–Home Missions Board of Directors Meeting
25 Western Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M., Stancil's Chapel Church
28 Mount Olive College Board of Trustees, 9:30 A.M., Moye Library
–State Convention Executive Committee, 10:00 A.M., Headquarters

March Is Foreign Missions Month

2 Layman's League Executive Committee Meets
3 Cragmont Board and Camp Directors Meet, 10:00 A.M., Headquarters
4 Cape Fear Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M., Shady Grove Church (Competition 5-7 P.M.)
7 Ash Wednesday
9 Foreign Missions Conference and Commissioning Service for the van der Plas Family, College Hall, Mount Olive College
10 Piedmont Youth Convention, 10:00 A.M., East Rockingham Church
–State League Convention, 9:30 A.M., Beaverdam Church
11 First Sunday in Lent
17 Central Youth Convention, 9:30 A.M., Marlboro Church
–Eastern Youth Convention, 9:30 A.M.
18 Second Sunday in Lent
19 Pee Dee Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
20 First Day of Spring
22 Eastern District Auxiliary, Smith's New Home Church
24 Western Youth Convention, 9:30 A.M., Calvary Church
–State Sunday School Convention, Sandy Plain Church
–Central District Auxiliary, 9:30 A.M.
25 Third Sunday in Lent
Foreign Missions Telethon Sunday
30 Free Will Baptist Press and Bookstores Closed for Inventory

April Is Home Missions Month

1 Fourth Sunday in Lent
2 Albemarle Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M., Plymouth Church
7 Cape Fear Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
–Pee Dee District Auxiliary
8 Fifth Sunday in Lent
9 Central Ordaining Council, 10:00 A.M., Greenville, First Church
–Eastern Ordaining Council, 10:00 A.M.
11 Cape Fear District Auxiliary, Hopewell Church
12 Albemarle Woman's Auxiliary Convention, 10:00 A.M., Shiloh Church
–Western Ordaining Council, 10:00 A.M., Unity Church
12, 13 Evangelism Conference
13 High School Student Visitation Day, Mount Olive College, 10:00 A.M.
14 Western District Auxiliary, Mount Zion (Nash)
15 Palm Sunday
19 Maundy Thursday
–Board of Superannuation Meets 2:00 P.M., Headquarters
20 Good Friday
22 Easter
23 The Free Will Baptist Press and Bookstores Closed
23 Cape Fear Ordaining Council, 1:30 P.M.
–Cape Fear Ministers' Fellowship, Smithfield Bible and Bookstore
–Central Ministers' Fellowship, 11:00 A.M.
24 Free Will Baptist Press Board of Directors Meeting, 1:00 P.M.
28 Western Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
–Piedmont Conference Quarterly Conference and Ordaining Council Meeting
29 Mount Olive College Scholarship Day
–Taylor Hill Memorial Offering Sunday

May Is Children's Home Month

1 Camp Vandemere Opens
–State Convention Executive Committee Meets, 10:30 A.M., Headquarters
2 Church Finance Board of Directors Meet, 10:30 A.M.
4 Layman's League Executive Committee Meets
5 Cape Fear Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
7-13 National Family Week
8 Foreign Missions Board Meets, 10:00 A.M., Headquarters
10 North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, 10:00 A.M., Mount Olive College
11 Graduation, Mount Olive College, 6:00 P.M.
12 State Layman's League Convention
13 Mothers' Day
17 Children's Home Board Meets, 7:00 P.M.
18 Home Missions Board of Directors Meeting
18-20 State Youth Convention Meets, Mount Olive College
19 Children's Home Founders Day Service, 10:30 A.M., Memorial Chapel
–Central Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
21 Pee Dee Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
23 First Children Admitted to Children's Home on this date in 1920
25-27 Junior-Senior Weekend Retreat at Camp Vandemere
26 Western Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
27 Memorial Sunday
28 Memorial Day
28 The Free Will Baptist Press and Bookstores Closed
31 Ascension Day

June Is Cragmont Month

1 Ministers' Retreat, Camp Vandemere
2 Cape Fear Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
9-16 Children's Home Resident Summer Vacation
9 Open House at Free Will Baptist Press
10 Pentecost
17 Father's Day
–Trinity Sunday
–Superannuation Day
18-22 Woman's Conference at Camp Vandemere
18-23 General Youth Conference at Cragmont
23 Western Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
25-29 Youth Camp, Camp Vandemere
25-30 Christian Cadet Conference at Cragmont
29 Free Will Baptist Press and Bookstores Closed for Inventory

July Is Christian Education Month

2-6 Youth Camp, Camp Vandemere
2-7 Youth Frontier Conference (YFA) at Cragmont
4 Independence Day
4 Free Will Baptist Press and Bookstores Closed
7-8 Homecoming Weekend at Children's Home
7 Cape Fear Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
9-13 Youth Camp, Camp Vandemere
9-14 Youth Frontier Conference (AFC) at Cragmont
9 Central Ordaining Council, 10:00 A.M., Greenville, First Church
–Eastern Ordaining Council, 10:00 A.M.
12 Western Ordaining Council, 10:00 A.M., Unity Church
13 Layman's League Executive Committee Meets
16-21 General Youth Conference II at Cragmont
16 Pee Dee Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
19 Board of Superannuation Meets, 2:00 P.M., Headquarters
21 Central Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
21 Home Missions Workers Banquet
23-26 Ministers' Conference at Cragmont

(More Dates on Back)

23 Cape Fear Ministers' Fellowship, Smithfield Bible and Bookstore
—Cape Fear Ordaining Council, 1:30 P.M.
—Central Conference Ministers' Fellowship, 11:00 A.M.
24 Free Will Baptist Press Board of Directors Meeting
28 Piedmont Conference Quarterly Conference and Ordaining Council Meeting
—Western Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
29 Mount Olive College Scholarship Day
30—August 4 Young People's Bible Conference at Cragmont

August Is State Convention Promotion Month
1 Church Finance Board of Directors Meet, 10:30 A.M.
4 Cape Fear Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
6-10 Youth Camp, Camp Vandemere
6-11 Woman's Auxiliary Conference at Cragmont
6-7 Ministers' Institute at Mount Olive College
13-17 Youth Camp, Camp Vandemere
13-18 Woman's Auxiliary II at Cragmont
14 Foreign Missions Board Meets, 10:00 A.M., Headquarters
16 Children's Home Board Meets, 7:00 P.M. at the Home
—Decision to purchase "Craigmont Sanitorium" made on this day in 1945
17 Home Missions Board of Directors Meeting
18-25 Children's Home Resident Summer Vacation
21 Mount Olive Board of Trustees, 9:30 A.M., Moye Library
—Executive Committee of the State Convention, 10:00 A.M., Mount Olive College
25 Piedmont Conference Quarterly Conference and Ordaining Council Meeting
27 Fall Semester Begins at Mount Olive College

September Is Home Missions Month
1 Suggested Deadline for Resolutions to 1984 State Convention
—Cape Fear Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
2 Labor Day Sunday
3 Labor Day
3 Free Will Baptist Press and Bookstores Closed
4 Free Will Baptist Press Membership Meeting
7 Pastors' and Sunday School Superindent's Banquet
—Layman's League Executive Committee Meets
8 Piedmont Youth Convention, 10:00 A.M.
10 Organization Meeting of State Sunday School Convention held on this date in 1940 at Little Rock Church
11 Statewide Evangelism Conference, College Hall, Mount Olive College
12 North Carolina State Convention convenes, 9:30 A.M., College Hall
—Mission Rally, College Hall, 7:30 P.M.
13 North Carolina State Convention, 9:30 A.M., College Hall
15 Central Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
—Eastern Youth Convention, 9:30 A.M.
17 First session of North Carolina State Convention held on this date in 1913
—Pee Dee Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
20 Eastern District Auxiliary
22 Western Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
—Central District Auxiliary, 9:30 A.M.
24 Cape Fear Ordaining Council, 1:30 P.M.
—Cape Fear Ministers' Fellowship, Smithfield Bible and Bookstore
—Central Ministers' Fellowship, 11:00 A.M.
28 Free Will Baptist Press and Bookstores Closed for Inventory
29 Piedmont Conference Quarterly Conference and Ordaining Council Meeting
30 Mount Olive Scholarship Day

October Is Superannuation Month
1 Albemarle Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
—Cape Fear Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
6 Pee Dee District Auxiliary
7 World Communion Sunday
8 Central Ordaining Council, 10:00 A.M., Greenville, First Church
—Eastern Ordaining Council, 10:00 A.M.
10 Albemarle Conference, Mount Zion Church
—Cape Fear District Auxiliary, Johnston Union Church
11 Western Conference Ordaining Council, 10:00 A.M., Unity Church
13 Cape Fear Sunday School Convention, Robert's Grove Church
18 Albemarle Woman's Auxiliary Convention, 10:00 A.M., Sidney Church
—Western Conference, Pine Level Church
—Board of Superannuation Meets, 2:00 P.M., Headquarters
20 Pee Dee Association, Cypress Creek Church
23 Free Will Baptist Press Board of Directors Meeting
24-25 Eastern Conference, Camp Vandemere
26-28 Cragmont Club Weekend Retreat
27 Western Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.

November Is Children's Home Month
1 Cape Fear Conference, Tee's Chapel Church
2 Layman's League Executive Committee Meets
6 Election Day
7 Church Finance Board of Directors Meets, 10:30 A.M.
8 Children's Home Board Meets, 7:00 P.M. at the Home
—Central Conference, Bethany Church
9-10 Cragmont Board of Directors Meets at Cragmont
10 State Layman's League Convention
11 Armistic Day
—Veterans Day
13 Foreign Missions Board Meets, 10:00 A.M., Headquarters
15 Deadline for Submitting Dates for 1985 Denominational Calendar
16 Home Missions Board of Directors Meeting
17 Children's Home Thanksgiving Service, 10:30 A.M. Memorial Chapel
—Central Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
18 Thanksgiving Sunday
19 Pee Dee Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
20 Mount Olive College Board of Trustees, 9:30 A.M., Moye Library
—Founders Day Service, Mount Olive College, 11:00 A.M.
22 Thanksgiving
22 Free Will Baptist Press and Bookstores Closed
24 Western Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
27 Mount Olive College Chartered on this date in 1951

December Is Foreign Missions Month
1 Cape Fear Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
2 Advent Sunday
3 "Messiah" Presentation by Mount Olive College Music Department, 8:00 P.M.
9 Second Sunday in Advent
10 Deadline for *Yearbook* Material
16 Third Sunday in Advent
19 Children's Home Resident Christmas Vacation
22 Western Youth Convention, 7:30 P.M.
23 Fourth Sunday in Advent
24, 25 Free Will Baptist Press and Bookstores Closed
25 Christmas Day
29 Piedmont Conference Quarterly Conference and Ordaining Council Meeting
30 Mount Olive College Scholarship Day
31 New Year's Eve
31 Free Will Baptist Press and Bookstores Closed for Inventory
—Watchnight

The Free Will Baptist

Mount Olive College

COLLEGE HALL CHAIRS ARRIVED CHRISTMAS

Update: Through December 14

Needed:	800 Chairs ($50 each)	$40,000
Gifts to Date:	151 Chairs	7,750
Balance:	649	$32,250

The College was advised that the Convention chairs for College Hall were shipped December 16, with a scheduled arrival date of December 23. The chairs, therefore, will be ready for use at the Grand Opening of College Hall on January 7.

151 Chairs Through December 14

Donors	Number of Chairs	Amount
In Memory of Lena Elizabeth Mallard Banks By Margaret Carol Banks, Trenton	1	$ 50
In Memory of Clyde Jackson Banks By Margaret Carol Banks, Trenton	1	50
Margaret Carol Banks	1	50
In Memory of Hardy Talton By Mrs. Mildred R. Talton, Pikeville	2	100
Marsh Swamp Layman's League, Sims	1	50
Angola Free Will Baptist Church, Maple Hill	2	100
Howell Swamp Woman's Auxiliary, Walstonburg	3	150
Totals (December 13, 14)	11	$ 550
Received through December 12	140	7,000
Received through December 14	151	$7,550

CHURCH VISITS BY COLLEGE PERSONNEL

Sunday, January 1

Dr. Calvin Mercer, professor of Religion, will "Kick-off" the Sunday school workshop at the 11 a.m. worship service at Christian Chapel Church, Lenoir County.

January 2, 9, and 16

Dianne B. Riley, director of Admissions, will conduct a Sunday school workshop at Christian Chapel Church, Lenoir County. The three-night workshop will be held from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. each evening. Sponsored by the Paul Palmer Institute of Mount Olive College, the workshops are for Sunday school teachers, officers, pastors and lay persons in the Lenoir County area. The Rev. Ed Miles is the pastor.

COMING EVENTS

Closed for Christmas *December 22-26*

Jim Burns Show *January 3,* 11:30 a.m. WECT-TV, (Channel 6, Wilmington), Dr. W. Burkette Raper, guest appearance.

Grand Opening College Hall, *January 7,* 10 a.m., College Hall and campus Open House tours begin.

Noon, College Hall tours end until after program.

12:30 p.m., Pre-program music begins in College Hall.

12:45 p.m., Grand Procession.

1 p.m., Program in College Hall.

2:45 p.m., College Hall and campus Open House tours resume.

Spring Semester Begins, *January 9* Both new and transferring students may enter at this time. Ministers who wish to begin work toward a bachelor's degree may also enroll.

Foreign Missions

FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATION

by Fred Baker

October 27 and 28, was the fourth annual Foundation Day celebration at Palawan Bible Institute. The two days are set aside each year to celebrate unto the Lord for the great and mighty acts He has accomplished in establishing this Bible training center.

The celebration is begun by an inspiring worship service in the chapel. Following the worship service, the members of the community and local churches who attend enjoy games in basketball, volleyball, table tennis, chess, races, egg relays and even a talent show that night.

Palawan Bible Institute was established in June 1979. Since its doors were opened with the aid of the Board of Missions of the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, PBI has graduated a total of twenty students. What are these students doing? Here is a quick update.

TOTAL NUMBER OF GRADUATES	20—100%
In full time ministry	11—55%
Continuing their education	4—20%
Working part time ministry	2—20%
Working non-Christian employment	3—15%

We praise the Lord for these statistics because they speak well of PBI and its educational program. Even the three in non-religious employment are well equipped to be vital witnesses for Christ in their communities. Yes, this is a reason for rejoicing and celebration. God is doing great things here at PBI in and through the lives of the students, faculty and staff.

Take time **today** to thank God for this ministry. Take time to pray for PBI and its continuing guidance in the center of God's will.

Sunday School Lesson

For January 1

GOD'S CASE AGAINST HIS PEOPLE

Lesson Text: Isaiah 1:2-6, 18-20
Memory Verse: Isaiah 3:13

Our first four lessons from the Book of Isaiah have dealt with the Messianic hope, a theme that is prominent in the book. In our study we have considered only a few of the many passages in Isaiah that speak of what God would do in the future. A new day would dawn when God's kingdom would be established on earth. The people of God would be given a new name, which the mouth of the Lord would name. God's divinely anointed Messenger would come, bringing good news to the afflicted. This Messenger would be preceded by a forerunner, one who would prepare for His coming, and out of Jerusalem the message of deliverance would go forth. The Deliverer would come as a child, one born of the family of David, and He would reign over an everlasting kingdom.

From the scope of the above study we can understand why Isaiah has been called the evangelist of the Old Testament. It is a stirring experience for us to read these prophecies of the Christ, given some seven hundred years before His coming. Yet it would be a mistake to think that this composed the whole of the prophet's message, or even the major part. Actually, the foretelling of what would come to pass later was not the primary function of the prophets. After all, each of them lived in a flesh-and-blood situation. They were continually confronted by people to whom God would have them minister, and God gave them a message fitted to the needs of the people. Consequently, their commission was to speak forth this message, and they were called to be *forthtellers* more than *foretellers*. Today our lesson affords us an example of how Isaiah faced up to this responsibility.

The background to our lesson finds the Assyrian monarch Tiglath-pileser (also called Pul) dominating the Middle East. Babylon became subject to him, so that he ruled the entire Tigris-Euphrates valley, and soon he was seeking control of Syria and Palestine. Menahem, king of Israel, paid him heavy tribute, and for the time being the Assyrian "turned back" (2 Kings 15:19, 20).

Naturally the people of Judah would be concerned about invasion, and there were various proposals as to what should be done. There was a pro-Egyptian party who strongly favored a coalition with Egypt as the best insurance against the Assyrians. Others would prefer to collaborate with the powerful nation that threatened them. The Prophet Isaiah might have been considered naive, but he urged the people to walk in the ways of God and put their trust in Him.

The Assyrians, after successes elsewhere, eventually would come again and would place Jerusalem under siege, only to be decimated by an act of God and forced to withdraw (2 Kings 19:35, 36). The faith of Isaiah and Hezekiah, who was king at the time of this later invasion, was justified. Yet the coming of the Assyrians did have other dire effects. During the years that these events were developing, the manners and customs of these eastern pagans were emulated by the people of Judah—those who were supposed to be distinct people of God. A pagan altar was erected at the temple in Jerusalem, and the altar of the Lord was moved to the north side of the temple. King Ahaz, who instituted this change, would worship the heathen god on one altar and Jehovah on the other (2 Kings 16:10-15). Many of the people followed the king in pagan practices.

It is ironic, but it is true, that whereas the threat from without (the might of the Assyrian army) could not bring about the fall of Jerusalem, idolatry and gross living, the twin cancers within, would ultimately bring her ruin. These people needed a message from God!

Under the circumstances, the word of Isaiah, like that of other prophets before and after him, consisted of two parts. The first of necessity had to be the word of condemnation, for the evil practices that were so widespread could not go unnoticed by a righteous God. But there was also the word of God's grace. If the warnings were heeded, then there were promises to be enjoyed.—*Standard Lesson Commentary*

Family Devotions

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

Scripture Reading—Genesis 1-3

I SLEEP WHEN THE WIND BLOWS!

A ranch hand applied for work. "I sleep well when the wind blows," he said to the ranchman. His cryptic words puzzled the ranchman. He employed him, however, as he needed help badly. A few nights later, high winds swept across the prairie. The ranchman arose hastily. He found the windmill properly adjusted to ride out the storm, the gate tied with an extra rope, a tarpaulin tied securely over the strawstack and pegged down tightly. Everything was shipshape. When he reached the bunkhouse, he found the ranch hand sound asleep! Then he understood the meaning of the cryptic words, "I sleep well when the wind blows!"

We, too, can sleep well when the winds of adversity blow. We can confidently say: "I will trust, and not be afraid" (Isaiah 12:2).

MONDAY, JANUARY 2

Scripture Reading—Genesis 4-6

MY TIMES

My times are in Thy hands;
My God I wish them there;
My life, my friends, my soul I leave
Entirely to Thy care.

My times are in Thy hand,
I'll always trust in Thee.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

Scripture Reading—Genesis 7-9

TRUST GOD, TOO

A minister was driving up a narrow mountain road behind a long line of cars. A large moving van was ahead. No one dared to pass the man as a car might be approaching from the opposite direction. At the crest of the mountain, the driver of the van waved his hand, indicating that all was clear ahead. Probably this man was a stranger to all those whom he waved past. They saw only his hand. The minister said, "More than a dozen people trusted their lives and the lives of their families to that total stranger! We trust one another with our lives many times a day—on buses and trains, in cars and in airplanes. But few are willing to trust themselves to the care of God whose eye is always upon them."

Great is God's faithfulness and I will fear no evil about the future. There is no room for the word "disappointment" in the happy life of entire trust in Jesus and satisfaction with His perfect and glorious will.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY, 4

Scripture Reading—Genesis 10-12

SCARED AND WORRIED

A little girl said to her mother, "Mommy, you and Daddy acted awful worried and scared at the supper table last night. Was it because you thought that the bad men would blow up the world? Mommy, when I am worried and scared, you comfort me. God will comfort you. I'm sure He will tell you He is looking after things, just like you tell me. He will take care of us!" The mother was an earnest Christian. She felt rebuked by her girl's sweet trust in the provident care of God so she said, "I guess we did act worried and scared. I am sorry, dear."

Trust Him when dark doubts assail thee,
Trust Him when thy strength is small;
Trust Him when to simply trust Him
Seems the hardest thing of all.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

Scripture Reading—Genesis 13-15

THE MARK OF TRUE GREATNESS

A bishop gave some lectures at a college. The students were greatly impressed by his deep spirituality. "What's the secret of his quiet mien and spiritual depth? Maybe if we could hear him pray at the close of the day, we'd know."

Going to his room after a busy day the bishop fell wearily across his bed. Before he fell asleep, he prayed simply and with childlike trust:

"Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep,
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take!"

The eavesdropping students went away silently. They felt they had their answer.

Childlike trust is always a characteristic of great Christians. Jesus taught that the symbol of greatness is the child in the midst, and that we must possess childlike trust to enter the kingdom of God.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

Scripture Reading—Genesis 16-18

IF WE TRUST!

When the frosts are in the valley,
And the mountain tops are grey,
And the choicest buds are blighted,
And the blossoms die away,
A loving Father whispers,
"This cometh from My hand,
Blessed are ye if ye trust,
Where ye cannot understand!"

Blessed are ye if ye trust,
Where ye cannot understand!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

Scripture Reading—Genesis 19-21

NO CONFIDENCE IN MAN

The king of Italy and the king of Bohemia promised John Huss safe transport and safe custody. They broke their promises, however, and Huss was martyred. Thomas Wentworth carried a document signed by King Charles I which read, "Upon the word of a king you shall not suffer in life, honour, or fortune." Shortly afterwards, however, his death warrant was signed by the same monarch. "Put not your trust in princes," were his last words.

"It is better to trust in the Lord" than in anyone or anything else.

Portions selected from *Knight's Treasury of Illustrations*, Walter B. Knight.

Mail Registration Form found on Page 4 today!

An Invitation

Please consider this your invitation to Ayden Bible and Bookstore's upcoming Mini-Music Festival. This extraordinary music event will be held on Monday, January 16, 1984, in the Multi-purpose Room, located in the Bookstore facility. This music festival will begin at 7:03 p.m., and will run about two hours. Let us help you with your endless search for new music material. Come and be a part of this innovative and enriching experience.

Especially For

Adult choir directors, youth choir directors, children's choir directors, accompanists, soloists, and YOU! **Please,** no more than three participants per church.

Cost To You

This music festival costs $15 per person. This registration fee is non-refundable. (Registration is limited, so do not wait to the last minute.)

Registration

- Maximum of three people from one church
- $15 per person
- All registrants will receive a Spring Festival Packet.
- Send your registration to:
  Ayden Bible and Bookstore
  Box 158
  Ayden, NC 28513-0158
- Registrations should be postmarked no later than January 3, 1984.

Highlights

Each registrant will receive a free music packet of recent publications worth over $35.

Ayden Bible and Bookstore will provide discounts on selected materials during the festival.

At least fifteen **NEW** titles from Singspiration will be discussed and "demonstrated" by our clinician, Larry White.

Ayden Bible and Bookstore will provide refreshments after the two-hour session, at which time you will have an opportunity to talk with Mr. White as well as acquaint yourself with other choir and music directors.

DATE DUE

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For Reference

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